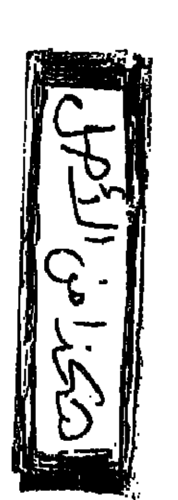


The German Tribune

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Bonn is prepared to respect Poland's present frontiers

The signs are that opposing viewpoints at least came closer together in the rd round of talks between this country d Poland held in Warsaw. At long last a lution to the controversial issue of cognition of the Oder-Neisse line as land's western frontier seems possible. Poland is evidently prepared to accept e compromise formula proposed in arsaw by State Secretary Duckwitz. sically, the compromise amounts to the nclusion of a frontier treaty with Poland.

The Federal government is to underke to "respect" the Oder-Neisse line as land's western frontier and no longer call into question the territorial inteity of Poland within its present froners.

Even Chancellor Brandt will probably ave been surprised that the Poles are repared to accept a formula avoiding the ord "recognition." Prior to Herr Duckitz's departure for Warsaw hopes in onn of the talks coming to a successful nclusion had sunk almost to nil.

It may be that the confidential letter sent by Willy Brandt as Social Democratic leader to Wladyslaw Gomulka, his opposite number as First Secretary of the Polish Communist Party, played a part in bringing about the change.

The letter represented an attempt by Herr Brandt to complement official diplomatic contacts at government level with a kind of shortcut direct link between the leaders of the ruling parties of both countries.

In view of the criticism levelled at this unusual procedure by the Christian Democratic and Christian Social Union opposition it is doubtful indeed whether this tactic was particularly adroit from the domestic politics angle.

In order to preclude the possibility of any possible misinterpretation Herr Brandt would do well to publish the letter soon.

In the next round of talks, scheduled to be held – in Bonn for once – at the beginning of June, it may prove possible to enter directly into negotiations proper. The Federal government's compromise formula really does go a long way towards meeting Poland's demands.

Instead of an agreement on renunciation of the use of force including the use of force to bring about frontier amendments Bonn is now offering a frontier agreement including renunciation of the use of force.

The wording proposed by the Federal government amounts in practice to final recognition of Poland's present western frontier by this country, as has expressly been confirmed by Polish Communist Party Secretary and ex-Interior Minister Mieczyslaw Moczar.

The note in the text that other existing treaty obligations are not affected is intended to maintain this country's legal position as regards the Potsdam Agreement and the 1954 treaties according the Federal Republic full sovereignty, particularly in respect of Four-Power responsibility for all Germany and the three Western powers' guarantees regarding the Federal Republic and West Berlin.

Without question any such agreement with Poland will mark the end of 700 years of German history in the east of the former Reich, a history written more by the plough and the spade than by blood and tears.

Sad though it all may be, particularly for expellees, neither Konrad Adenauer nor Willy Brandt has been able to win at the conference table the war instigated and lost by Hitler.

Were a treaty to be concluded with Poland the Federal government's Eastern policy, pursued simultaneously in Warsaw, Berlin and Moscow, would have notched up a first and crucial breakthrough.

Werner Neumann
(Lübecker Nachrichten, 26 April 1970)



Hanover Fair opened

Chancellor Willy Brandt opened this year's Hanover Fair, the world's largest industrial exhibition on 25 April. This country's 4,639 exhibitors (4,412 last year) face competition from 1,907 (as against last year's 1,616) exhibitiors from 31 foreign countries, including for the first time Communist China and Israel. All Eastern Bloc countries except Albania are represented. The most foreign exhibitors come from Britain, France and Switzerland. The United States is the tenth most important exhibitor, in front of Russia and Japan. (Photo: dpa)

IN THIS ISSUE

Scheel in Madrid and Duckwitz in Warsaw

Federal Republic policy for peace, inaugurated by Erhard and Schröder and continued with a will by Brandt and Scheel, must primarily be directed at medium-sized and smaller nearby countries.

In all of them estrangement must be overcome, bones of contention settled and differences of opinion resolved.

Twenty-five years after the war's end there still remains a great deal for the Federal Republic and the Federal government to do before there can be any talk of all-round good relations having supplanted tacit reservations.

This country, which considers itself to be one of a number of medium-sized powers, cannot rely solely on relations of trust with "its" great powers.

It must acknowledge all other countries too, each in its own particular situation and more moderate place in the world. Relations must be restored to a normal footing.

Continuous efforts of this kind are often hard work and certainly take time but in the long run contacts in all directions will prove worthwhile.

It will even make a profit, regardless of occasional annoyance or worse over details. A policy of peace must be pursued unerringly and untiringly in all Europe.

The occasion for these reflections is the range of moves that has been undertaken recently in Oslo, Warsaw and Madrid. The connecting link between the three is Europe.

The least difficult is Norway, a Nato ally that has nonetheless by no means forgotten the German invasion, but Spain and Poland are a different matter altogether.

Many a risk and difficulty are to be found in the uneven, rugged political terrain extending between these ill-treated countries and this country. There are wounds that unexpectedly open again.

Each in his own way, Foreign Minister Scheel in Madrid and State Secretary Duckwitz in Warsaw tried to deal with clusters of problems of varying intensity the solution of which would be extremely beneficial to Europe as a whole and not merely to this country.

It would be good if Walter Scheel were to have given Spain a helping hand along the road to European integration. It would be even better if the Poles were to accept the meaning of Bonn's latest frontier proposals.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 25 April 1970)

Norwegian friends

Thirty years ago, in April 1940, German troops invaded and occupied Norway. A certain Willy Brandt was interned and unable to escape to Sweden until the summer.

Twenty-five years ago, in May 1945, the Third Reich capitulated. This same Willy Brandt returned to Berlin and renounced Norwegian citizenship despite the prospect of a brilliant diplomatic career in his second home.

Between the two anniversaries Brandt visited his old friends in Oslo as Chancellor of the Federal Republic.

Brandt outlined the future of an all-European peace settlement and an expanded European Common Market in his address to the Norwegian Parliament.

It was an important speech, delivered abroad but among friends and without the aid of the usual ghost writers. Brandt spent a great deal of time on the views he voiced in Oslo, which were no doubt also to be seen as an addition to his talks with President Nixon in Washington and his debates with the Opposition's Rainer Barzel in Bonn.

Bonn's debate as to whether the Germans' right to self-determination can be reduced to a question of recognition or non-recognition of the Oder-Neisse line or whether the political integration of Western Europe is to be entrusted to the present or the next generation pales in significance beside Willy Brandt's demands.

The Chancellor called for a European peace settlement as an answer to the historic challenge to the peoples of the Continent. He defined self-determination as a nation's right in principle and without violating the frontiers of others to determine what form it chooses to give to the concept of nationhood.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 25 April 1970)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Soviet emphasis on politics still outweighs economics

Two recent speeches by Leonid Brezhnev have indicated the Soviet Union's position in foreign and domestic policy. Observers must now supply a more precise commentary on the situation.

The Soviet leadership has three main aims in foreign policy. Firstly, it wants the Soviet Union to stand together with the United States as a big power without the necessary costs weighing too heavily on the standard of living at home.

Secondly, it wishes to consolidate present possessions in Europe and Asia by a planned status quo policy. And thirdly, it is concerned with strengthening its influence in the crisis areas of Vietnam and the Near East without coming to a direct confrontation with the United States.

These guide-lines for present foreign policy are safeguarded by many subsidiary activities.

The endeavour to be equal to the United States as a globally committed major power can be seen plainly in two political acts. On the one hand the Soviet Union decided to give direct and indirect aid to developing countries even though there are many areas at home where they have a long way to go to catch up with other countries.

On the other hand the Soviet Union has a costly naval programme with extensive manoeuvres all over the world. It has thererfore moved away from the isolationist tendencies of Nikita Krushchev who did not want to build any more large warships.

At the same time the Soviet leaders are trying to achieve arms limitation at the Salt talks in Vienna. This should keep the two big powers defence expenditure under control.

To guarantee its possessions in Europe and Asia the Soviet Union, with a strong military presence, is seeking negotiations. Soviet leaders see far more chances of a European agreement guaranteeing the status quo than of detente with China.

Insistent propaganda for a European security conference is continuing as even its preparatory phase contains elements of detente and a relief of pressure on Russia's "Western front".

In Moscow's total conception of foreign policy the multilateral homogeneity the Warsaw Pact is thought of as the basis of power. And it is no wonder that it is the Soviet military leaders who are pressing for full agreement in foreign policy, for joint manoeuvres and economic integration. This makes it clear that Rumanian foreign policy, for example, will operate before an extremely complicated background in future.

The main aim of Soviet foreign policy is to stabilise the country's own society and economy and make them more efficient without weakening its present positon as a big power.

This is where the real concern lies. At the plenary session of the Central Committee in December 1969 there was lively discussion on the principles of State and economic direction.

The personal background to this confrontation is still obscure. Only one thing is certain – so far results of economic reform begun in 1965 have not been satisfactory.

This reform was introduced because the spread of bureaucracy in economic life had inhibited technological development, stifled the initiative of manufacturers and thrown back the Soviet Union's competition with the West as far as quality was concerned.

Brezhnev clearly referred to this problem in his recent speech at Kharkov when he said that production levels did not matter as much as price.

Economic problems have not been overcome in spite of the reform. The reasons are obvious. Decentralisation and the transfer of all rights of self-administration to staff and factories would endanger central political power.

After the events in Czechoslovakia Soviet leaders will not face a risk of this type. Political reason comes before economic efficiency. This is a basic reason why technological progress and the selection of consumer goods lag behind demand.

Wage increases involving 3,000 million roubles in the past year has not been accompanied by a corresponding rise in the number of goods on sale. This represents a genuine threat at home.

The cure is seen to consist not in liberalisation but in increased strictness of the party's directive role in all spheres from the economy to culture, in stern procedures against parasites on the economy, in political propaganda, in the renovation of industrial plant and the introduction of the most modern technoligical methods.

Technology is to serve to a certain extent as a substitue for a more modern social policy. Concurrently the same appeals to improve administrative structure that could be heard decades ago have been dropped. Carrying this out was always more difficult than issuing party directives.

From this starting position no rapid improvement of the standard of living and economic productivity can be expected. But it shows that the chief priority is a stabilisation of the domestic power structure.

There must obviously be clashes of opinion and personlities. We can only wait to see what personal clarification comes out of the 24th party congress this autumn.

Heinz Lathe

(Kieler Nachrichten, 22 April 1970)

France returns to the Western European Union

France will probably attend the ministerial congress of the Western European Union (WEU), postponed from May to June, now that the Foreign Ministers of the Six in the European Community have obviously found a formula at their joint return without loss of face and after a decent interval.

In the timetable of the Foreign Ministers this meeting follows the conference of all NATO Foreign Ministers in Rome at the end of May and, during the same week in Rome, a session of the Common Market Foreign Ministers to examine a report on possibilities of achieving progress in the political unification of Europe.

The summit conference at The Hague commissioned this report with the stipulation to examine this question in the perspective of expansion. At first it was planned that the six Foreign Ministers would meet their colleagues from those countries seeking entry for an discussion during the Rome meeting.

But working out the report is obviously proving extremely difficult and the possibility of talking with the British Foreign Minister in the WEU Ministerial Council could offer a further way. At any rate France's decision has set things in the political sphere in motion again.

(Handelsblatt, 22 April 1970)

Scheel to visit Asia again

After visiting India, Thailand and Singapore in February Foreign Minister Walter Scheel is now to visit four other Asian countries on a second tour from 6 to 17 May.

Scheel's programme is so arranged that he can accompany President Gustav Heinemann to the Osaka World Fair on 13 May and on his visit to Tokyo on the two following days.

Apart from Japan Walter Scheel will visit Indonesia from 7 to 9 May, Malaysia from 10 to 12 May and South Korea on 15 and 16 May.

(DIE WELT, 22 April 1970)

Nixon eases American public concern over Vietnam war

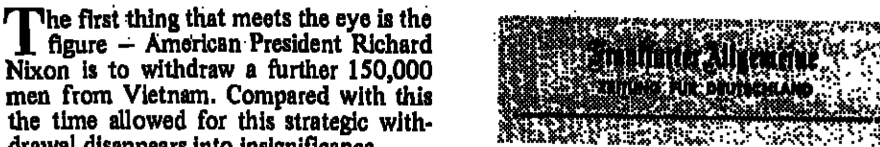
The first thing that meets the eye is the figure – American President Richard Nixon is to withdraw a further 150,000 men from Vietnam. Compared with this the time allowed for this strategic withdrawal disappears into insignificance.

One year is Nixon's estimate. The less spectacular, though in fact decisive interval has been regulated with the generals in mind. The impressive thing, and the inevitable, was offered to the public – a troop reduction.

Nixon as a politician has met with success with this elastic procedure. Consent is unanimous. The President needs this sort of atmosphere as his peace policy is being watched by a relentless group of opponents of the Vietnam war.

Even though Nixon gains the admiration of the American people for his endurance in situations of crisis there still remains the fact that the country wants to be rid of the war, and as quickly as possible. Vietnam has become a burden on the domestic front. Everybody bears the brunt, everybody is depressed. No President can dare avoid this fact.

It is therefore basically unimportant what the President stresses when justify-





ing the strategic withdrawal or making the obligatory reference to the enemy's failure to beome more reasonable.

Elements of tension in foreign policy remain unchanged. Strategically the confusion in Cambodia has made the situation even more dangerous. The idea of a conference on Indo-China finds considerable support from America.

But this is all of secondary importance compared to the mood of the American people. The only important factor is the unrest caused in America by the war in Vietnam. The struggle in South East Asia was regarded as a clash in the wrong place. Youth especially asked critically whether American should not reexamine its policies. The ideal picture that many had made of their country is destroyed. Contemplation has given way to anger – and the President must bear this in mind.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 22 April 1970)

Fears of Indo-Chi[na] conflict

What General Lon Nol has [...] motion removing Prince Sih[anouk] and attacking communist Viet Con[g] in Cambodia is gradually assumi[ng] proportions of an avalanche that [...] tons to engulf the whole of [...] French Indo-China.

Hopes of an end to the Vietnam [...] the near future, fostered by Pre[sident] Richard Nixon's policy of the g[...] withdrawal of American troops an[d] Vietnamisation of the conflict, are receding again. The fire is not [...] extinguished but is about to spread again.

The United States who were just [...] point of withdrawing slowly from [...] Vietnamese quagmire now see them[selves] in danger of new entangelments in [Cam]bodia and Laos. Almost inevitab[ly the] day will come when a decision will [have] to be taken whether the wish of [the] government in Phnom Penh for milit[ary] aid is to be met or not.

Nobody apart from the United St[ates] comes into question as deliverers of [...] materials to Lon Nol. Britain has al[...] declined, the Soviet Union will no[t ...] cannot attack its Vietnamese comr[ades ...] the rear and France too will no[t ...] military support in spite of still ex[...] links.

Washington too would probably li[ke to] ignore Phnom Penh's cries for help [...] cially as the new regime has dirtied [its] hands in its actions against Vietna[mese] resident in Cambodia. Even if Gen[eral] Lon Nol did not order the massacre [...] has been reported, he obviously di[d not] do enough to prevent it.

American support of the new go[vern]ment would be extremely unpopu[lar in] the United States in spite of all anti[...] to the fallen tight-rope walker [...] Sihanouk.

But can Washington sit back [and] pretend that nothing has happened w[hen] the Viet Cong conquers Cambodian [terri]tory to the East of the Mekong? An [Ameri]can and South Vietnamese operat[ion] near the duck's bill, an area of Camb[odia] stretching far into South Viet[nam] supplies the answer.

The latest developments have oblit[erat]ed the frontiers of States established [in] the former Indo-China. The Vietnam [war] can become an Indo-China war overn[ight]. A new Geneva Conference should [be] convened as quickly as possible.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 April 1970)

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■ HOME AFFAIRS

Election battle in North-Rhine Westphalia gets under way

The last phase of North-Rhine Westphalia's election campaign began on 18 April with in all more than 1,000 delegates at the Christian Democrat (CDU) and Free Democrat (FDP) Party conferences in Leverkusen and Düsseldorf as well as the Social Democrat (SPD) conference of provincial assembly delegates, held likewise in Düsseldorf.

Party chairmen Willy Brandt (SPD), Kurt Georg Kiesinger (CDU) and Walter Scheel (FDP) and a number of other leading Federal Republic politicians underlined the importance they place on the local elections in the most populous Federal state by putting in an appearance.

The fate of the socialist-liberal coalition in Düsseldorf is at stake and also that of the Bonn government coalition.

At the first joint party conference of the CDU's state branches in Rhineland and Westphalia-Lippe it became clear that in the North-Rhine Westphalia elections the CDU's stress will be on its opinions of the failed economic policies of the central government and on a more local basis the "abortive efforts and lack of action" of the SPD-FDP government led by Prime Minister Kühn, particularly on education and social welfare policies.

In Leverkusen Kurt Georg Kiesinger opened the conference with unexpectedly vehement attacks on the Bonn government's economic policies, claiming that false diagnoses had led from one extreme to the other.

He stated: "Prices are no longer under control and the course of action required has not been taken."

He considered that 1970 threatened to be the most inflation-ridden year since the Federal Republic was formed.

The President of the CDU branch association in Westphalia, Josef Hermann Dufues took a similar line and amid approving cries from the 600 CDU delegates he called out: "Schiller has lost the trust of people in the Rhineland and the Ruhr . . . the Economic Affairs Minister has mishandled economic affairs!"

Sitting next to Dufues was Heinrich Köppler, the star candidate of the CDU in North-Rhine Westphalia who represented the new unity of branch associations which had previously been at daggers drawn. He made the party's election aim clear: "The CDU wants to take over the government."

The party conference ended with the acceptance of the new policy programme of the CDU's North-Rhine Westphalia branch which is to be an incontestable programme of work for the party in the seventies, "so that our Federal state will be number one in the Federal Republic again," as star candidate Heinrich Köppler said.

It was this policy programme which at the beginning of the year proved a stumbling block to the former star candidate, Wilhelm Lenz, who was in conservative circles considered to be too liberal.

The policy programme that has now been accepted has, as a result, been basically re-written and on many points watered down.

The section on education policy calls for the central government to have general authority over the whole education programme and further calls for the introduction of a pre-school year, a general ten-year course of study at school and a course lasting at least twelve years for the completion of a degree.

It was precisely this section of the CDU's policy programme that was the cause of scorn and mocking at the FDP provincial assembly party conference only twenty-five miles away in Düsseldorf.

FDP chairman Willi Weyer reproached the CDU as the party that had blocked reforms in the educational system in the past and which was to blame for over-small schools and denominational schools. He claimed that if the "conservative and reactionary CDU" wanted to be considered today's progressive party it was precisely because of its ideas on education that people were turning up their noses at the thought. After all, Weyer said, "it takes more than a Mikat to make a forward-looking party out of the CDU."

The FDP has set its sights on gaining 7.5 per cent of the votes at the local election in North-Rhine Westphalia.

The present coalition with the SPD in Düsseldorf is to be continued after 14 June. Weyer assured Foreign Minister Walter Scheel that the North-Rhine Westphalian FDP would back him as much as it did Wolfgang Döhring and Thomas Dehler if it should be attacked by outsiders.

Siegfried Zogelmann, for many years Weyer's deputy, who is considered particularly by the young democrats to be too national-liberal was not re-elected. The new vice-chairman of North-Rhine Westphalia's FDP is Alfred Ollesch.

At the North-Rhine Westphalian SPD branch associations delegates conference in Düsseldorf Prime Minister Kühn, the star candidate, received an almost 100 per cent vote of confidence with 192 votes out of a possible 195.

With a similarly high vote count the remaining candidates in the SPD's star group were re-elected to the state reserve lists, including Dr Dieter Posser, Werner Figgen, Johannes Rau, Fritz Holthoff and Dr Fritz Kassmann.

As "election platform 1970" the delegates concentrated on the "North-Rhine Westphalia Five-Year Plan" recently published by the government. This received unanimous applause and the party stated that it would back the plan's recommendations in the election campaign.

In his address Kühn stressed that the SPD hoped to win an absolute majority (in 1966 it collected 49.5 per cent of votes) but stated that even in this case it had the intention of prolonging its link-up with the FDP.

Kühn took a stand against the SPD's main rivals at the election, the CDU. He countered the CDU's war-cry "Köppler is coming" with the no less determined slogan "We are staying". *Hasso Ziegler*

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 20 April 1970)

Public must be better informed on constitutional points

Hans Dietrich Genscher, the Minister of the Interior, is concerned with making problems surrounding constitutional affairs more lucid to people in this country.

A commission set up by the central government, Federal states and local authorities is to prepare by late 1971 a report on the changes necessary to Basic Law, so that at long last the practice of making isolated single decisions will be at an end.

In spite of this, sad to say, certain drastic measures are already necessary to augment the authority of the government.

Nevertheless the drive to produce an overall concept of changes required shows that a doubt has been cast on single



individual alterations to Basic Law and that the powers that be are ready to act on this, undertaking a total revision of Basic Law.

In connection with this in certain circumstances another commission may be set up concerning itself specifically with civil rights questions attempting to find an answer to the problem of communicating political decisions to the public.

The complex question of peoples referendums is to be studied closely. Genscher has already said that the only ideas that will even be considered are those [illegible] representative democracy.

However it should be made clear that a strengthening of the plebiscite system is always a burden on representative democracy. Discussion about a people's referendum can easily give the impression that parliamentary democracy is worthless and is simply a necessary evil.

(Handelsblatt, 21 April 1970)

Confused state of election campaign financing in Federal States

After Hamburg's local elections which took place on 22 March five further Federal states are to re-elect their provincial assemblies this year. They are North-Rhine Westphalia, the Saar, Lower Saxony, Bavaria and Hesse.

The current presidents of the provincial assemblies in these states are viewing the outcome of these polls with mixed feelings.

The reason for their uncertainty lies in the medium-sized coffers from which they are paying the parties standing for election advances on their election campaign expenses and from which any post election restitution will have to be found.

The Federal Constitution Court in Karlsruhe in its ruling of 1966 forbade general party financing but permitted restitution of election campaign expenses in proportion to the party's representation in a provincial assembly.

The Bundestag ruled in addition in party political legislation that parties which obtained a minimum of 2.5 per cent of valid secondary votes in any constituency will receive compensation for their election campaign costs in proportion to the party's share of votes cast.

The Federal Constitution Court in a further ruling declared this Bundestag judgment to be contrary to Basic Law. It based this judgement on the fact that the 2.5 per cent level did not offer equality of opportunity to minor parties.

At the election before last in 1965 they would have had to cull 835,000 votes to enjoy restitution of expenses and in 1969 a similar figure would have had to be reached.

The Constitutional Court ruled that it was invalid to base such a figure on the demands of earnestness in standing for election.

A minimum share of the total votes cast of 0.5 per cent (in 1965 this would have equalled 167,000 votes) would be sufficient to prevent splinter groups and the formation of minority groups that only take part in election campaigns with a view to pocketing funds.

The Federal Constitutional Court in its judgment of December 1968 made no mention of the Federal states. Federal legislators hastened to make political party legislation conform to Basic Law by introducing the necessary amendments in time for the 1969 elections. The previous 2.5 per cent limit was lowered to 0.5 per cent. But this applied only to general elections and no such amendment was made for provincial assembly elections.

In an umbrella agreement it simply empowered the states "to publish legal formulations about remuneration of election campaign costs for provincial assembly elections" in which the amount and method of reimbursement must remain within the framework of the central government ruling.

A number of Federal states had already accepted the original central government figure of 2.5 per cent. In this they were not immediately affected by the Constitutuional Court's judgment quashing legally the central government's party political legislation ruling.

But they could rest assured that rulings of their own if attacked would have to agree with any verdict that was reached.

At this stage it would have been simple for the Federal states to ape the central government once more and likewise reduce the quorum to 0.5 per cent.

In fact a percentage that meant 167,000 votes in the 1965 general election shrinks in the smaller Federal states with correspondingly smaller populations to a negligible figure.

In the Saar with about 1,200,000 inhabitants there will be about 800,000 voters at the June elections. If the Saar, which has to date made no provision for repayment of election campaign costs decided to introduce such a system and made 0.5 per cent a quorum every minute splinter party with 4,000 votes or even less depending on how many people voted in all would have a claim for reimbursement. The same applies to the three city states, Bremen, Hamburg and Berlin.

In the meantime a number of Federal states have set the level in their party political legislation according to their own rule of thumb. According to this any party taking part in the election campaign they wants to receive election remuneration must win at least as many votes as is required to give it a seat in the provincial assembly.

This figure is reached if the total of all valid votes divided by the number of seats available in the provincial assembly.

A rough approximation shows that Baden-Würtemberg requires one per cent, likewise Rhineland-Palatinate, Bavaria's quorum is 1.25 per cent and in Schleswig-Holstein 1.5 per cent of all valid votes cast.

Lower Saxony and North-Rhine Westphalia have not yet amended this legislation. However it is in the melting pot and should in both cases be between one and 1.5 per cent.

In Hesse, the Saar and the city states remuneration of election campaign costs is not planned in the immediate future.

It is not yet certain whether and how far the Constitutional Court will approve the new limits set by the Federal states.

At a meeting of provincial assembly presidents in late 1969 to discuss this questions there was talk of informal contacts with the guardians of Basic Law in Karlsruhe. It is thought that the Constitutional Court judges will agree to the rule of thumb: valid votes divided by mandates.

(DIE WELT, 18 April 1970)

■ LABOUR RELATIONS

Welfare workers and the fight against social distress

On the Wednesday afternoon some thousand welfare workers packed their bags and set out for those parts of the Federal Republic from which they had come for the Welfare Workers' Congress held at Bochum from 11 to 15 April.

Their heads were probably swimming with the words that had been thought up for them by outsiders, some amicable, others less amicable. The chief speaker, Dr Tillman Moser of Frankfurt University, coined the word "social orderly" while psychology and sociology students of Bochum's Ruhr University countered this with "social technicians" and "adjustment strategists".

Welfare workers are still fighting for acceptance and are searching for a new position in a society that is changing more rapidly every day. Perhaps it was because of this that they were in no way indignant when they heard these words. Most of them showed, younger members with ostentatious applause, older members with a slightly bitter smile, that these terms touched upon a wound that had caused them pain whether they knew it or not.

Friend (Dr Moser) and foe (the student members of the extra-parliamentary opposition) agreed among themselves on the diagnosis and differed basically only in the way that they told the patient (the welfare worker) of the illness. This was only logical and in no way surprising.

The diagnosis was that the welfare worker, whose profession forced him to help the "wounded" of the existing social system, is increasingly running the risk of becoming frustrated.

Welfare workers' training is often inadequate and there are no real chances of further training. The means they have are insufficient and they are often left in the lurch by the authorities who commission their work. Their "clients", the homeless, ex-convicts, the handicapped, addicts and the mentally sick, receive them with growing mistrust.

They must therefore limit themselves to acting as first-aid orderlies (as Dr Moser said), fighting the main areas of social distress, here a bandage, there a palliative for one of the wounded – only rarely can they do more.

They cannot stop the flow of wounded that, Moser says, our social system continually produces as they have no opportunity of influencing this process. The



extra-parliamentary opposition put it more harshly. Their function created an alibi, it said. By spreading the ideology that all was all right and something was being done they hid social conflicts, concealed under-privileged groups on the periphery of society or adjusted these "deviants" to suit dull middle-class norms as far as these still appeared of use for a consumer society based on production.

They have neither the time nor opportunity to do true social work. They are for the most part isolated and wrapped in their day-to-day orderly service. They cannot diagnose social distress, lose the ability to find understanding amongst the general public and find no effective forms to achieve their interests, especially the interests of those they represent.

In other words most of the very people who know best the distress of groups on the periphery of society and therefore seem predestined to head the struggle for social changes that can stop the continual production of "wounded" do not enter battle but resign and become frustrated.

The remedy was discussed by guest speakers, advisers, the extra-parliamentary opposition and participants of the Bochum congress. The social critical [illegible] should be strengthened by gradually ridding themselves of the strings pulled by authorities, by cooperating more closely amongst each other in groups and team work and by seeking possible allies, as Dr [...] termed it.

At Bochum it was decided that [...] and the mass media could be [...] allies. Dr Moser claimed that rese[...] the periphery of society so far rea[...] occasional excursions by midd[...] scholars with specimen boxes i[...] that they did not know too well [...] university students frantically lo[...] research subjects and chance up[...] weirdest ideas social work even [...] lacks all scientifically based infor[...]

Nobody need be concerned abo[...] nical progress – profit interes[...] State backing take care of that, Dr [...] said. Social and human progress [...] other hand have very few advoca[...] normally have to make do with [...] that are centuries, if not millen[...] This is the area that must receive [...] treatment in future. Social worke[...] therefore take the initiative an[...] scientific institutes interested in this.

The same is true of mass media. As [...] interests of the groups on the edge [...] society cannot be organised and [...] develop any power to penetrate [...] political spheres they have not [...] their due public representation [...] now, Dr Moser says.

But if social orderlies wanted to [...] the duties of their role they cou[...] tribute decisively to the field [...] better publicity by resisting mor[...] getically than previously the author[...] way in which information is publish[...] the powers that be. "The authoritie[...] of failure," Dr Moser says, "need [...] the fear of welfare workers as well."

It also became plain in Bochum [...] the aimed change in the social w[...] field of action could help in over[...] the prejudices and basically hos[...] titude of many of the "wounde[...] group of "pupils" has announce[...] pamphlet, "We need alternatives [...] which has finished us and will [...] finish us. We do not want [...] rehabilitated into this society b[...] another, better society where we'[...] be glad to cooperate!" *Hasso Zi[...]*

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 16 April [...])

Plans to protect foreign workers' interests

The Federal government plans to counter the illegal traffic in foreign workers in future by introducing an extended registration obligation for foreign workers, by fines and jail sentences and, if necessary, by closing factories.

Helmut Rohde, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Order, said during question time in the Bundestag that the Federal government utterly deplored unscrupulous dealings of this kind.

He was replying to a question by Social Democrat Karl-Heinz Hansen of Düsseldorf and Ellen Lauterbach of Bammental.

(DIE WELT, 18 April 1970)

Foreign workers must be made an integral part of society as well as the means of production

The economy of the Federal Republic will not and cannot abandon its high growth aims. The laws of the boom demand that at present 1.7 million foreign workers stand at the production line or conveyer belt, sweep streets, empty dustbins or just fetch and carry.

All are fully integrated in the production process but only a relative few have been accepted into the society of their host country as equals. Where are the points of friction? Must a ballast of prejudice be thrown overboard? Do the motives of the Italians, Spanish, Turks and Greeks in working here perhaps stand in the way of integration?

An analytical sociological study has just been published to try to answer these questions. The study, entitled *Life as a Foreign Worker*, was published by Westdeutscher Verlag and written by Bingemer, Meistermann-Seeger and Neubert. The work was commissioned by Cologne's Social Office and the city's Society for Socio-Analytical Studies.

Workers in this country have feared for a long time that their foreign colleagues would put their jobs in jeopardy and brake the wage spiral. Two factors have helped balance this tense relationship between workers in this country and those from Southern Europe.

Workers in this country are now better off socially thanks to their foreign colleagues. Because of this new lowest social level they can rise into more highly esteemed or better paid positions. Recession was the second factor – the dismissal and non-engagement of foreign workers kept unemployment relatively low.

The foreign workers' inability to speak the German language has a paralysing effect. Emotions are built up within them that can only be got rid of through language. The foreign workers then withdraw to increasingly more impulsive patterns of behaviour. Built up emotions can lead to such outbursts as explosive aggression, depressions and confusion.

More than half of them find that the worst thing is living so far from their homeland. Only then comes dissatisfaction with the Federal Republic and its inhabitants. Palliatives for depression resulting from separation are one of the most frequent treatments prescribed by general practitioners.

The assertion that more crimes are committed by foreign workers than by the home population, is revealed as a striking example of prejudice. The crime figures for Germans in the Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia are twice as high as those for foreign workers. The difference is even greater in Cologne.

Theft and robbery are completely untypical of foreign workers. Frauds and swindles are divided equally between home and foreign population. But the ratios are different with crimes of violence and sexual crimes. The average figure for the home population is below, sometimes considerably below, the figures of all foreign workers groups.

But the authors of the study cite restricting factors that must be borne in mind when evaluating these statistics – all in favour of the foreign workers:

*Statisticians often do not differentiate between foreigners and foreign workers.

*The particular age structure of the foreign worker population is not taken into account.

*The low ratio of women and children is not taken into account.

*There is a low figure of unknown crimes committed by foreign workers because of intensive investigation.

In interviews concerning the sexual situation of foreign workers the authors were often met with warnings. The belief in this country that foreign workers are good lovers seems rather obscure. Capabilities that men here would like to have are attributed to foreign workers. When men in this country deliver warnings about foreign workers in this respect then, the authors believe, they feel envy and jealousy. They fear that their supposedly lower potency will be revealed.

The authors make a very general judgement on why the foreign minority come to work here in the Federal Republic. They say that the foreign worker leaves his country so that he can organise his life in a completely different manner. He is the sort of person who is no longer satisfied with family and social conditions in his homeland and who decides to move to a new world and return a changed man. According to the authors the primary aim is to change their person in their host country and, at the same time o[...] their family at home.

From the rather risky theory [...] Germans want the help of foreign [work]ers to gain prestige and enjoy an a[...] tic social rise the study concludes th[...] foreign worker's primary aim ha[...] unreal character of a wish as the [...] conditions he meets here hinder his [...] tions, divert them or even sabotage [...] completely.

To improve the lot of these wo[...] from Southern Europe who are wo[...] in the Federal Republic and, at the sa[...] time, aid the process of integration [...] authors of the study recommend t[...] families should be brought together [...] soon as possible. That would also [...] money and tension.

The occupation and integration of [for]eign workers will remain a problem of [...] process of industrialisation. To com[...] this problem the authors recommend [...] authorities and institutions to take up [...] attitude that is friendly to integra[...] Some bureaux have been able to boast [...] this for years.

The repressions of the period of for[...] labour – in 1943 some five and a h[...] million foreign workers lived in Germ[...] – still act as an inhibiting factor. It [...] worth solving the difficult problems co[...] cerning foreign workers. The authors [...] that mixing with them was a great enric[h]ment for them all. *Jörg Knoppe*

(Industriekurier, 18 April 1970)

■ REVIEW

Germany played a central part in Lenin's thinking

Germany always had a central position in Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov's political calculations. Ulyanov, alias Lenin, had lived in Western Europe since 1900 and, though he had only loose contacts with the left-wing in Germany, he was really impressed by the size and organisation of the German labour movement.

Before the First World War the movement totalled one million Social Democrats and two million trades unionists and was the largest, most disciplined and most modern organisation of its type in Europe. Compared to its power, the divided and broken left-wing in Czarist Russia was completely without significance.

This explains why Lenin called for a Russian August Bebel and why, on his return to Russia, he merged the divided left-wing into a political army with all means at his disposal including terror, under the guiding principle "Learn descipline from the Germans".

As a Marxist, Lenin hated Bismarck's Empire, German capitalism and the bourgeoisie. He placed all his hopes on the Social Democrats and the unions that worked in close cooperation with them. It was from this group that he expected a revolutionary upheaval in Germany.

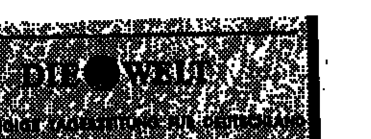
Path to Socialism

Lenin believed that the SPD's strict stand against militarism and solutions of force would prevent Germany entering the war in 1914, throw the Empire into a crisis ripe for revolution, stimulate Socialists in the rest of Europe to oppose the war and smooth the way towards the socialist metamorphosis of the Continent.

Lenin's respect for the SPD and the leaders of the socialist parties in western Europe soon changed to contempt when at a meeting of the Reichstag on 4 August 1914 the 111 Social Democrat members joined other parties in approving the war credits demanded by the government at the same time as Socialists in France and England were supporting their respective governments' preparations for war.

His hostility towards the German Social Democrats increased after the end of the war when the party, now in power, sought protection from Western Imperialists instead of forming an alliance with the revolution in the East, to use Lenin's words.

Lenin called their leaders a band of independents who should be threefold cursed and who would end up on the rubbish and dung heap of the labour movement. For the revolutionary Lenin there was no doubt that Soviet Germany in alliance with Soviet Russia would have been stronger than all the capitalist States put together.



In March 1918, not long after the signing of the separate German-Soviet peace treaty at Brest-Litovsk that seriously shook the young Soviet State and the ruling Communist Party, Lenin saw the salvation of Soviet Russia only in the German revolution: "It is true that we shall perish without the German revolution. Perhaps not in Petersburg nor in Moscow, but in Vladivostok . . ., but we will perish whatever happens if the German revolution does not take place."

Six months later, just before the political storms in Germany that November, Lenin was determined to ignore the starvation in his own country that had reached catastrophic proportions and place the grain at the disposal of the German revolutionaries if they needed it in their struggle for the liberation from the monsters and animals of capitalism.

At that time Lenin described the Treaty of Versailles as a "treaty of murderers and robbers . . . infinitely more barbaric than the notorious Treaty of Brest." Lenin recommended to the Germans a close alliance with the Soviet Republic of Russia to escape the chains of Versailles. Germany, the second country in the world as far as its economic development went, could not, he said, tolerate the Versailles Treaty. The Germans must therefore seek allies against those powers who were responsible for Versailles.

Of course Germany's complete about-turn towards Russia strengthened the unstable Soviet republic. But Lenin's calculations did not materialise. The German republic survived the years of civil war from 1918 to 1920.

Lenin gathered fresh hope from the Polish attack on Russia on 25 April 1920. Beating this off, the Red Army was to carry the revolution to Poland and then Germany. At that time Lenin wanted to know that everybody in Germany, even the blackest reactionaries and monarchists as he termed them, expected the Bolsheviks to turn the post-Versailles order upside down by force of arms.

The war against Poland was lost. Instead of carrying the revolution to Poland and from there to Germany and destroying the Versailles structure the Red Army had to withdraw behind the Polish-Russian frontier fixed by the Peace of Riga on 18 March 1921.

Though one hope poorer, Lenin stubbornly stuck to the thought that Germany should not on any account enter into agreements with the West, nor become an ally of Western countries. No stone should be left unturned in bringing Germany to the side of the Soviet Union by a combination of outer and inner influences.

Lenin's tactical considerations were simple. He proceeded from the fact that any rapprochement between Russia and a middle-class democratic State would automatically cause differences within the capitalist camp.

These differences would really begin to take on dangerous forms when isolated Berlin opened diplomatic relations with the equally isolated Soviet government. Accordingly Lenin's envoys were ordered to begin energetically in normalising relations between Russia and Germany.

On 16 April 1922 Europe was astonished to hear of the Treaty of Rapallo that forged a political link between Berlin and Moscow. The treaty envisaged, without the Reichstag being consulted, immediate opening of diplomatic relations between the German Reich and Soviet Russia and opened the way for two-way trade to be carried out according to the preference principle.

Concluded as it was behind the backs of the Western powers, the Treaty of Rapallo did indeed lead to a severe strain on Berlin's relations to Paris, London and other Western capitals. But Lenin's long-term aim of using this extraordinarily skilful diplomatic coup to split Germany from the West and drive it to Russia's side was not achieved.

Lenin's last card in the game for Germany did not win the trick either. All Russian attempts to gain decisive influence on German domestic policy through the German Communist Party and the Communist International met with no more than partial success.

When Lenin died his belief formulated in 1918 remained a vision: "The victorious proletarian revolution would immediately and with incredible ease destroy all imperialism and certainly produce the victory of world Socialism."

Moscow and East Berlin still adhere to this vision today. Hermann Matern, a close colleague of Walter Ulbricht, put it most plainly: "A victory of the German working class in its fatherland would be equivalent to a victory of Socialism in the whole of Europe. The Americans will then have to withdraw to their island and prove that a single capitalist country can exist. That I doubt."

Walter Günzel

(DIE WELT, 18 April 1970)

Thirty years later on 13 October 1949 on the occasion of the compulsory foundation of the German Democratic Republic Stalin sent a telegram to Wilhelm Pieck in faultless Leninist spirit: "The experiences of the last war showed that the German and Soviet peoples . . ., that these two peoples possess the greatest potential in Europe to initiate great actions of world importance . . ."

Present attacks by the Socialist Unity Party on the men around Willy Brandt are also in true Leninist spirit. As the Federal government, a government headed by Social Democrats, does not turn its back on the Western system of alliances, its members are attacked by East Berlin as lackeys of monopoly, capitalism and imperialism.

Duckwitz honoured for saving Danish Jews

Frankfurter
Neue Presse

Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz, State Secretary in the Foreign Office, has been awarded the Heinrich Stahl Prize by the Jewish community in Berlin for rescuing more than 7,000 Jews in Denmark during the German occupation in the Second World War.

Heinz Galinski, the leader of the Jewish community, made the award during a memorial service on the 27th anniversary of the uprising in the Warsaw ghetto on 19 April 1943.

Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt and Eliashiv Ben Horin, Israel's ambassador to the Federal Republic, attended the ceremony in the Jewish community centre.

In 1943 Duckwitz was naval attaché at the German legation in Denmark and enabled Danish Jews to be rescued by boat with the help of the Danish resistance movement and Swedish support.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 20 April 1970)

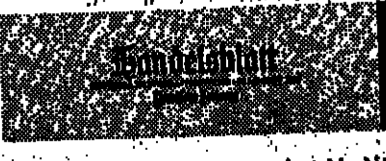
Walter Ulbricht's short paragraph full of important allusions

Talks between the governmental heads of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and the Federal Republic can lead to a positive result only if respect for the principles of equal partnership and non-discrimination is guaranteed, Socialist Unity Party (SED) State Council Chairman Walter Ulbricht stressed in a speech lasting almost two hours to celebrate the centenary of Lenin's birth.

He devoted a relatively short paragraph to the relationship between the two German States. But this contained some important allusions to the tactics that Willi Stoph can be expected to use during the Kassel talks.

In spite of the usual digs at the Federal Republic's policies the speech was very different from the attacks that have been seen in the press recently. But Chancellor Willy Brandt is once again accused of not having made a concrete statement on the draft for a treaty submitted by the GDR.

Ulbricht said verbatim: "All he has done is have President Nixon of the United States confirm that this Eastern policy is secure within the framework of America's global strategy. Chancellor



Brandt obviously believes that Mr Nixon is a specialist in human relations."

East Berlin continually refers to the draft treaty of 17 December as the only possible reality of inter-German talks. This also occurred in Ulbricht's speech when he said that the GDR was offering the government in Bonn a uniquely fair opportunity of escaping from hopeless and adventurous policies.

The SED leader met with applause when he said that it was about time to stop Federal Republic policy being determined by those conservative and reactionary forces that were not at all prepared to draw lessons from history and evaluate realistically the power ratio in the world.

It came as a surprise after the attacks of recent weeks that Ulbricht also stressed that the SED supported the Leninist principle of peaceful co-existence with capitalist States. He said that there was readiness for neighbourly cooperation of all European peoples and States. Ulbricht obviously does not want to close all doors to further talks.

But the GDR seems to overestimate its position a little when Ulbricht stresses that his government is prepared to open normal "diplomatic" relations with "all" States. The opening of diplomatic relations has always depended on two sides up till now.

Behind this however there is one overriding wish. Apart from the demand on the Federal Republic to give up its policy of sole representation and the Hallstein Doctrine there is an appeal to apply together with the GDR for membership of the United Nations and its special organisations.

This is a great desire of the GDR and it should be clearer to Ulbricht than to his vassals that this aim will certainly not be attained by continual attacks on and discrimination towards the Federal Republic.

(Handelsblatt, 20 April 1970)

■ CENTREPIECE

Student opposition over the years reviewed



The old-style ApO is dead and hashish is the new horror of middle-class drawing-rooms in this country. No sooner have citizens grown accustomed to the abbreviation for "extra-parliamentary opposition" than they can forget it again. For what most people understood by ApO has become less common. There are now fewer demonstrations, sit-ins, go-ins or other events that could disturb law, order and traffic.

Revolution has been postponed for the time being. The Federal executive of the Socialist Students' Union (SDS) has dissolved itself. The Republican Clubs have closed their doors and the abbreviation RC means no more to people now than Rowing Club.

The abbreviation KU can even be used by Christian Democrat students for their Frankfurt group, Critical Union. Hardly anyone can remember the other KU, the Critical University.

But the decrease in the exterior radicalism of the radical minority is deceptive. It has lost its belief that revolution can take place overnight and has given up the attempt to wipe the slate clean. It has put an end to verbal self-satisfaction as Habermas calls it. Yet the Left still exists, even though it is disorganised or searching for new organisational forms.

As long as it remains disorganised and [illegible] among one other, as long as individuals propose home-made revolution, there will be no great revolutionary events. After an attempt was made on student leader Rudi Dutschke's life over Easter 1968 for instance, 45,000 protesters took to the streets on Easter Monday alone in order to put into practice what Dutschke, the chief SDS ideologist, had announced some months previously: "We shall employ passive resistance in front of Springer newspapers printing works and prevent their distribution."

1968 was a year of demonstrations Axel Springer and Emergency Legislation were the main causes on the home front, Vietnam and Greece in foreign affairs. After Emergency Legislation was passed in May 1968 revolution mainly withdrew to the universities from which it had started.

From, at the latest, 1967 onwards, a change had set in. To use the words of the former SDS official Bernd Rabehl, "for the first time in German history the breeding ground of conservatism and social reaction, the German university, became the starting point for a revolutionary movement." Students took to the streets, representing a youth for whom politics cannot be reduced to the simple scheme of "Here we have democracy, over there Communism." A youth to whom the Third World of Asia, Africa and Latin America is part of one world and not a peripheral phenomenon.

It began at the universities as a struggle for and against the institution. For years student officials had pointed out the sorry state of universities in this country and demanded reforms but all they got was, at best, a few understanding words of consolation.

Educational experts among the politicians did not admit the universities' distressing situation until criticism of the universities developed into social criticism and opponents of existing educational policy became a new type of political position. But by this time the extra-parliamentary opposition was already speaking about the distressing situation in which *democracy* found itself.

The forms this opposition took soon became known to the public, though not the reason behind it. The ApO's deeds were too new, too exciting. When had this happened before? Protests and provocation, university ceremonies and lectures broken up, tomatoes, eggs and paint bombs thrown? At first it was the limited contravention of rules and regulations that aroused attention. That was one lesson learnt from the American Civil Rights movement.

"Discussion! Discussion!" was the chant at the beginning of 1967. But soon the ApO did not want to discuss any more. It was meant as a concession from the liberal establishment when Richard Löwenthal, at an event organised by the Indivisible Germany movement in July 1967, shouted to an SDS student, "We shall discuss with you until you are sick of it."

But they were already sick of it. At a full assembly of Berlin's Free University in May student-author Peter Schneider had explained the learning process that had led from discussion to resistance: "We calmly demanded university reform even though we had discovered that we could speak against the university constitution as much and for as long as we wanted without the lid of a single file being raised ... We then realised ... that our most objective argument against all this old junk was to stop arguing and [illegible]

Provocation became an instrument of political struggle. The announcement of demonstrations was greeted by whistles and, to quote Rudi Dutschke, people no longer wanted to demonstrate in the manner that an aristocrat took his dog for a walk. The non-recognition of established rules became a rule for the extra-parliamentary opposition.

The contravention of rules then became part of the game and an end in itself. When Emergency Legislation was passed without the resultant Fascist take-over and the system began to take steps towards reform some of the wind was taken out of ApO's sails. And finally when students came to university and continued the protests without first going through the learning process the end was in sight for the political effectiveness of the extra-parliamentary New Left.



Rudi Dutschke, the chief SDS ideologist

A student was a person who demonstrated. The bruise from a policeman's truncheon replaced the duelling scars of the old student organisations. There was a flight to symbolic actions. Departments were temporarily occupied and re-christened after great socialists. The impeded revolution became a happening.

Those who were serious began to disengage from combat. The ApO stars withdrew either because they had examinations to take or because they realised that the incipient forms of a personality cult would do their cause more harm than good.

The anti-authoritarian practice of protest and provocation was no longer sufficient. Nothing came of all the talk about great solidarity with the workers. It was no more than pure euphoria to speak of a mass movement.

The decisive factor was not how many [illegible] were. It was mainly students and, later, secondary school pupils and apprentices. But mainly students, tomorrow's leaders. No society can do without them in the second industrial revolution.

"Coming to terms with the students may exhaust all our strength," Professor Horst Ehmke said as early as 1968, "But we should not lose the young generation, for the simple reason that this is the generation we have waited for to put our democracy to the test."

But whether the interest in the new generation is democratic or technological we must take pains over it. Abolition of authoritarian forms, more participation and democratisation in all spheres of life have suddenly become political demands, even party electoral slogans. Three years achieved what had not even been attempted in twenty.

After the period of restoration there began, a little late, attempts towards re-building, re-thinking and reform. "Shared decision-making and responsibility in the various areas of our society will be a moving force in the years to come," Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt said in his government policy statement.

With the sentence: "We are not standing at the end of our democracy, we are only just beginning" the Chancellor was able to annoy Christian Democrats who had governed the State for twenty years but he was unable to convince hard-liners within the extra-parliamentary opposition.

It is true that ApO members are no longer hitting the headlines but they still exist. There now begins for them the much-vaunted long march through the institutions after revolution was not attained in leaps and bounds.

But they are far from satisfied. After the dissolution of the SDS Federal executive to which he had belonged for many years Franz Wolff said, "One thing is clear: The conditions against which thousands of students, apprentices and pupils within SDS fought are in no way changed so that this struggle can stop. On the contrary, revolutionary groups in various towns will continue to fight."

Activity today is less abstract, perhaps even more factual. One intended also the long hoped-for solidarity with the proletariat. Though this is planned more for the future than the present. Young workers and apprentices are the preferred targets. They will later be able to carry the banner of revolution.

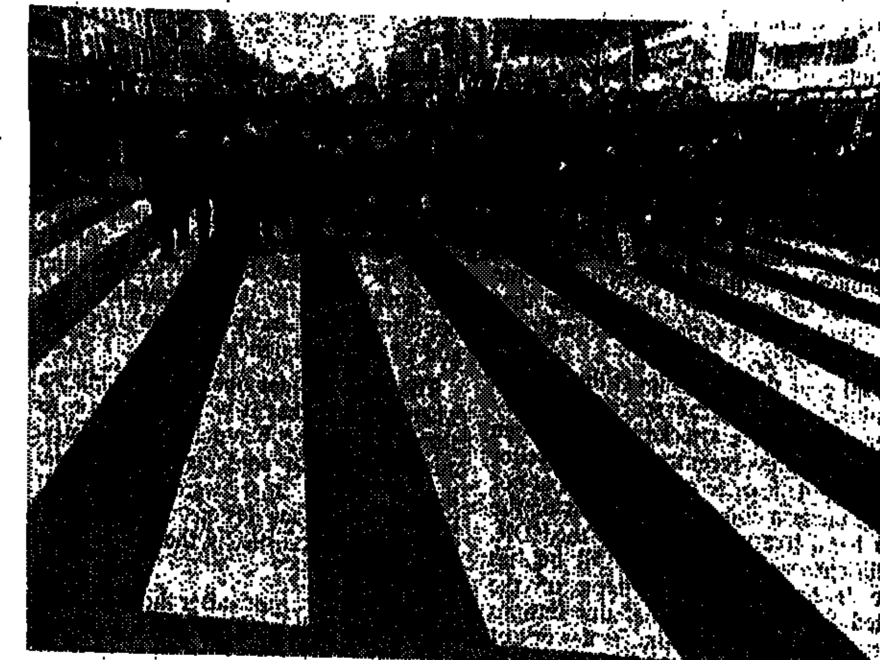
Wolfgang Lefèvre, a former leader of Berlin students, said, "It is not a question of the intelligentsia going into the factories and fighting for the workers, but a question of aid so that the workers themselves kindle these conflicts and themselves draw the organisational conclusions from them." But he knows and admits that the proletariat in this country still has a long way to go before revolution.

Reformers on the other hand are those who have now returned to the existing institutions. But it is this group that is causing the greater stir at the moment. The inner-party opposition in the Social and Free Democrat Parties are alarming the party establishment. A new abbreviation has been found: IPO.

So the ApO has become the IPO? The old ApO is certainly dead after the political means proved so successful that they were confused in their purpose with the result that the aims were almost forgotten and the attainable aims completely forgotten. Perhaps the seeds of the ApO harvest are only now beginning to sprout within established organisations.

Jörg Richter

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 12 April 1970)



APO demonstration in West Berlin
(Photos: Michael Ruetz)

■ CINEMA

Politically engaged films dominate film festival

Oberhausen's Film Festival is for showing films and discussing them and everywhere at the festival that a film was not running a discussion was being held.

For midday on the Wednesday of the Festival there was a unique event in the history of Oberhausen's Film Festival – the international jury invited members of the public to an open debate.

Film audiences were to voice their opinions on matters about which the jury could not agree. Should jury meetings be held in the open? Should film audiences have a say in the decisions reached at such a Film Festival? Does the Festival actually need a jury?

Among the most vocal members of the jury on these points were numbered its Federal Republic members, Erika Runge and Georg Alexander.

One of those heartily against so many innovations was Moscow's representative Anatole Koloshin, while the President of the jury, Santiago Alvarez from Havana, seemed to be prepared for anything that would upset the old order.

It is not necessary to mention revolution outright when one is out to make life difficult for as many people as possible.

Once again the methods of choosing the Federal Republic selection of films and the principles involved in so doing were discussed and other countries discussed this too.

Apart from this the main attraction in Oberhausen was the retrospective side.

There was a special feature "Cinema in Cuba", comprising twelve full length feature films, 26 shorts and eleven newsreels spanning ten years of Cuban film-making.

In fact Cuban films are surrounded now by an almost legendary reputation as were films from the New American Cinema a few years since.

When we first got to know about these films in this country the immediate impact was rather below expectations, but perhaps the reason for this was the time lapse.

The picture has changed and now the Federal Republic film-short week seems to have caught the Cuban film at a high point. Demand for films from Cuba could scarcely have been greater than it was this year.

This is not just a matter of coincidence but has a deep significance. It is certainly connected with the fact that the majority of the filmmakers and critics gathered in Oberhausen this year voiced their preference for the politically orientated films exhibited by the Federal Republic.

The most aesthetically conscious, most sensitive products following in the wake of the New American Cinema – of which there were many convincing examples on show – were rejected out of hand almost in their entirety.

Political films, films of agitation are at a premium. This is exactly what Cuban cinema is all about, particularly in connection with the name Santiago Alvarez, who is responsible for some of the most outstanding agitation films of recent years.

It is quite possible that the retrospective side of this year's Oberhausen Festival will at last perform a germinating function! It may well be that Federal Republic films will as a result become "more Cuban".

Little impetus can be felt at the moment from the United States. At least the first part of the American programme gave this idea. The North Americans simply do not know what they want.

One thing does seem evident and was pointed out last autumn by the Mannheim Festival. American films should become more politically orientated inasmuch as this is possible. The *amour propre* and toyings of the New American Cinema must be overcome.

Frenchwoman Agnes Varda has made her contribution to this. She has made a documentary about the Black Panthers for a New York producer which is unfortunately not very exciting and just summarises the situation with interviews, statements and pictures of events.

Agnes Varda's film is nevertheless ten times more political than the three minute short by Dan McLaughlin, where the three minutes are spent showing a number of people saying the word "Peace".

The only reaction this produces on the audience are boredom and unconcern and rather than boosting the idea of peace which is the filmmaker's intention it has the opposite effect.

Jugoslavian films could be considered among the most successful and well received in Oberhausen 1970 – they were carefully selected wheat from among what was mostly chaff at the Belgrade Film Festival.

They were received with friendly acclaim by the audience, it cannot be denied. But this year there was little of the unbridled enthusiasm noted at previous Oberhausen festivals. The constant buzz of excitement here in 1969 is totally absent.

Decidedly political films seem to make audiences calmer! It is hard to tell whether that speaks in favour of the films and their producers or whether it runs contrary to their intention!

Oberhausen audiences do not this year seem particularly keyed up about the ultra-sensitive productions from the school of the aesthetic underground.

Films by Kurt Kren or Kenneth Anger, who made *Invocation of My Demon Brother* in London left the audiences rather unmoved, however persistent and penetrating Kurt Kren may think the "Underground Explosion" is, and however enervating the Mick Jagger music in Anger's film, reduced to a few notes, the opening bars of *Sympathy for the Devil*, may be.

The overexertion of cinematic means in Anger's works could only be called a technical achievement by specialists, could only be praised by devotees, in the same way that the total sorcery in which Kenneth Anger immerses himself makes for a completely private cinema.

There was no backing for Anger's theory and conviction that the spark of understanding would spring across the gap to the outsiders directly, and that his film must act as a kind of initiation rite. Nothing supported this idea in the Oberhausen Stadthalle when his film was shown.

Perhaps the audience was not sensitive enough.

It is an astonishing and sobering thought that simple films, even animated cartoons, that are nothing more than comic strips set in motion, are immediately acceptable.

This is perhaps the reason that Great Britain's entries came off so well. There were cartoons by Bob Dee Godfrey, Derek Phillips and Nicholas Gosling.

One characteristic of these is that they must be explained afterwards in order that the point of their joke can be seen. And when they are explained nothing remains open and nothing is lost.

Reise mit Vater (Journey with Father) by Sweden's Vilgot Sjöman has another dimension. It shows how a very old man returns to his earlier homeland and speaks to friends from the old days, the subject of their conversation being those who have died in the interim.

There are no other subjects of conversation, and contact cannot be made in any other way.

This has an uncanny effect and is perhaps the most malevolent film in this year's Oberhausen programme.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 16 April 1970)



'The Late Show' with Frank Okohta, a British Film Institute entry at the Oberhausen Film Festival (Photo: Pressestelle der Oberhausener Filmfestspiele)

Shakespeare and the German spirit

The continued unbroken predominance of William Shakespeare's plays on stages in German-speaking cultural areas could be considered something of a paradox, what Siegfried Melchinger once called the "progression to Shakespeare".

Progress towards scenic representation involving a retrospecive glance towards old ideas this contains the idea not only of the highly vivid effective history of the little known man from Stratford-upon-Avon but includes also to an equal exent the winning of new ground in the theatre thanks to contemporary authors.

In this respect the German Shakespeare Society, sub-department West at Frankfurt can be credited with a stroke of genius inasmuch as their current president, an expert on English literature, Professor Stamm from Basle, made some of his tutorial group act out a confrontation of Shakespeare with the modern theatre.

The comparison was between the prologue to William Shakespeare's *Henry V* and Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*.

This was followed by a comparison of scenes from *Richard III* and Harold Pinter's *The Birthday Party* under the rubric "Murderers and their Victims".

But what could have served as an exhibition of historical dialectic remained a confession of the truth in Ben Akiba's "we've all been there once".

As discussion group leader Professor Stamm was able to reduce the fireworks of the experiments he had organised, the denaturalisation practice of modern day theatre as a direct descendent from Shakespeare to the formula that in Shakespeare everything is said that has to be said.

It came as an embarrassment when a festival production of *King Lear* was put on at the Frankfurt Schauspiel in which the guest directer Hans Schalla paid his tribute to Ben Akiba and at the same time erected a monument to the Frankfurt theatre's crisis which had in the meantime gained in public notoriety.

His interpretation of *King Lear* had a stage setting by Max Fritzsche with red plastic and a scaffold carrying flood lamps and looking very like a lunar module – a very topical touch. It took the example of poor old Lear to point out the danger that lies in a division of power.

This was, as required, a slander of that which as the guiding principle of the Frankfurt theatre should not have become reality, a – it is to be hoped involuntary offer to the Shakespeare Society on the theme of retention of power.

It is significant that Schalla did not follow on one point the Count Baudissin translation that he had chosen. It was the scene where Kent, banished by Lear, appears in unshaken vassel loyalty to the King. At this point Schalla does not use the word "Hoheit" but goes back literally to the original (authority) and lets the cat out of the bag with the word "Autorität".

At this stage Ben Akiba could have laughed behind his hand. The belief in authority coming from a Shakespeare figure that the director played up so much turned the Bard into a praiser of the German spirit.

Amid such self-confidence it was no small wonder that the Shakespeare Society council took the decline with regard to its number of members and subscriptions quite calmly.

Critical questions about the future of the Society were ignored and unanimously the committee positions coming up for election went to their present occupants.

In these circles the fact that two work groups at the universities of Bochum and Basle were preparing a new Shakespeare translation was like a silver lining to their cloud. Finally the actor Fritz Lichtenhan was elected to the committee.

This step was made necessary when the Society considered that Shakespeare lives not through letters of the alphabet alone but from enacted reality. This was underlined on the last evening when the Theater am Geländer Prag gave its striking performance of *Timon of Athens* at the Frankfurt Schauspiel.

For most of the audience this production must have been a shock. It would not only have been a shock because of its extremism in this particularly viruoso performance but also a shock because Shakespeare in this Czech translation, incomprehensible to the audience, proved to be exceedingly vital and lively.

Ulrich Schreiber

(Handelsblatt, 15 April 1970)

WRITING

Literary prizes should go to young authors fighting to get established

Standing on the platform is a man who smiles modestly as he bows politely to the audience and shakes the chairman's hand. He then receives an envelope which may contain anything between 500 and 50,000 Marks and reads out his speech of thanks. Fifty to 250 people applaud a ceremony that takes place a hundred times a year in the Federal Republic – an author is awarded a literary prize.

This avalanche of prizes does not make modern German literature flourish any the more as they are normally awarded to the wrong authors.

"Literary prizes always come when people no longer need them," said Swiss dramatist Friedrich Dürrenmatt as he handed the 15,000 Swiss Francs awarded with the Prize of Canton Berne to those young authors who are just making a start in life and need financial and moral support.

Günter Seuren, 37-year-old author of *Das Gatter* and *Lebeck*, said to *Welt am Sonntag*, "An author must first have a number of published books to his name before receiving a prize. But as soon as he's got one he does not have to wait long for a few more."

Heinrich Böll, now 52, must have received as many awards as any other author in this country. Thirteen important awards brought him 40,000 Marks, Siegfried Lenz can boast of seven distinguished awards, the seventh in May, this time 5,000 Marks from this country's Freemasons for his bestseller *Deutschstunde* a book that has made its author at least half a million Marks. And this figure does not take into account other successful books of his.

Gerhard Rühm, however, avant-garde author of *Fenster*, is still waiting in vain: "It's true I'm not living at starvation level but if I received an award I could afford tape-recording equipment that is very important for my radio work."

But Rühm has meanwhile given up all hope, "The avant-garde receive as many prizes as conservative authors. Juries always take the middle course as that is the safest."

Broadcasting editor Arnfried Astel, himself a poet, demands that jurors become discoverers: "I can cite examples of twenty literary men who work as clerks, earning 700 Marks a month, and come home at night exhausted. If these people were awarded 10,000 Marks they could live for a year and devote themselves entirely to literature."

Author Seuren whose writings have already assured him moderate affluence will refuse any further prizes awarded him: "I just do not need them. Prizes are idiotic, a bourgeois relic. Instead of helping young authors they only help juries to deck themselves out in borrowed plumes, or perhaps quills would be a better word."

Arnfried Astel said, "Awarding bodies are awarding prizes to themselves. When they distinguish a recognised author they are only showing their own recognition." Young authors are automatically left empty-handed.

The awarding bodies of the more than 140 literary prizes in this country worth about 400,000 Marks in all are primarily:

*The central government, Federal states and towns and cities;

*Societies and associations;

*Publishing houses.

Regensburg, Überlingen, Oldenburg, Amberg, Aalen, in short any town that has any civic pride, could put aside 500 to 1,000 Marks a year and transfer it with ceremony to an author's bank account.

All the better associations, or so it seems, award prizes. Not only does this country's viticulture association give a literature prize – deep-sea fishermen and forestry guards are also in on the act.

Admittedly it is mainly provincial authors who receive the provincial prizes. As author Klaus Roehler describes it with biting irony: "They emerge from the mists of their meadows, woods and vague emotions, fill a modest corner of the local paper for a day and then disappear back into well-earned obscurity where they are never seen or heard of again."

Private foundations too try to give culture financial support. These include the Freiherr von Stein Foundation of Hamburg with a capital of 75 million Marks which enables it to give as many as a dozen literary prizes if it wanted, such as the 25,000 Marks to Graham Greene a prestige award but certainly not "support". Therefore the Foundation gives additional prizes worth 3,000 Marks pocket money: "With this sort of prize society is trying to rid itself of its bad conscience about art."

This conflict between artists and society is not the only one. In 1959 Günter Grass was to receive the Bremen Prize for Literature for his novel *Tin Drum*. But he never got it as the Bremen Senate overruled the jury's decision after the youth senator, a woman, expressed moral doubts.

On the other hand ten years later the same prize was declined by 38-year-old Christian Enzensberger for his *Grösserer Versuch über den Schmutz*. He and many other authors feel themselves compromised as part the establishment when they are awarded prizes and act accordingly.

Dieter Lattmann, 44, frugal as a novelist *(Chess game)* yet voluble as chairman of this country's Authors' Assosiation, says, "Enzensberger should have taken the money and donated it to the Writers' Association or some other organisation."

Lattmann is at present thinking of a new literary prize to be sponsored by the Writers' Association. Lattmann hopes that this will be more influential than current prizes that do not have the least effect on book sales.

The situation is different in France. 1,200 prizes are awarded every year but the really important ones, such as the Prix Goncourt, guarantee the author a ten-fold increase of the first edition and translations into other languages.

The Radio Play Prize of the War Blind can claim the same importance in the Federal Republic. It is not linked with any cash award but all radio stations in this country broadcast the chosen play. That often means an intake of 50,000 Marks.

Dieter Lattmann says that the Writers' Association prize should also be free of any cash award. It is modelled on the British Writers' Guild. All members propose a colleague as prize winner. The

Continued on page 9

Measures to aid writers

Are we seeing the dawn of a new where freelance authors will under different economic conditi The public will have to get used to changing times and commit many of antiquated ideas about authors to archives.

Since last June this country's Auth Association (VS) has been in action its first delegate assembly in Hano attended by representatives of all Fed state and specialist groups an inte balance was drawn up.

Meanwhile the twelve-point progra of the VS has caused a great stir – Bundestag members have taken heed it. A minority that has been more or exploited in the past is demanding rig to make its hazardous existence mo secure.

The essential points deal with the clause concerning copyright – far-reachi improvements are foreseen here. As cha man Dieter Lattmann stated, this cla will soon be put into practice. political parties in the Bonn Bunde have already spoken favourably abo private bill to this effect.

A small reform is also planned to paragraphs dealing with schoolbooks to introduce an honorarium for school-book anthologies containing temporary texts. Royalties for pu lending libraries will be used for Association's social welfare fund that be subject to public control.

Cooperation with this country's fe federation of Trades Unions (DGB) the offing. The only obstacle at prese the still uncertain status of the aut who is indeed classed as self-employe

Hannoversche Presse

mainly stands in a similar relationship that of the worker.

Is there an attainable balance betw the justified individualism of the wr and the necessary solidarity? At any contact has been made with leading D officials and for the first time co copyright organisations convened a working group which was also atte by the Journalists' Union and the Bro casting and Film Union. With writ composers and actors at one table trend toward union behaviour alrea exists.

During their long period in governme the Christian Democrats and Christi Socialists introduced no measures wor mentioning to improve the social positi of writers. This makes it all the mo surprising that they stress their intere for writers now that they are in oppo tion.

On the other hand the courtship of the Opposition should cause the governmen to act quickly and, according to promise, expedite energetic reforms for minority that is discriminated against. This should be an essential point of democratic culture and education policy. A writer's standard of living is a yardstick for a country's cultural level.

One important statement proving th VS's vigilant commitment to democrati rights concerned the Brühne-Ferbach leg scandal. There should be public criticis of justice, the Association said.

The variety of problems discussed the delegate assembly in Hanover and th activity at social and economic level show that writers in the Federal Republic are determined to apply themselves to the social being. They are committed to humanity though in no way indulging in an unreal unselfishness that pushes their own justified demands on society into the background.

(Hannoversche Presse, 13 April 1970)

MEDICINE

Wiesbaden Congress discusses bisexuality treatment

Ten per cent of all marriages in the Federal Republic are childless. In half these cases it is due not to the wives but is a result of under-functioning of the male gonads.

Because of the importance of this type of complaint it was discussed at length at this year's congress in Wiesbaden for specialists in internal diseases.

Another problem discussed was that of bisexuality. The proportions of this problem are greater than previously assumed. Experts estimate that of the 65 million people living in this country approximately 200,000 are people between the sexes.

Professor Claus Overzier of Mainz reported that between 0.2 and 0.3 per cent of the population suffer from organic bisexuality. That means that some 200,000 bisexuals of various types live in this country.

Probably the most common defect appears in males – the Klinefelter syndrome. There the genital apparatus is normal though the testicles are only the size of beans and pubic hairs are of a female form. Between sixteen and 25 years of age these people go through a very painful development of the mammary glands.

Before puberty the syndrome can be recognised only by chromosome changes. Later an experienced doctor can diagnose it at sight. The bisexual has a soft face, characteristic creases around the mouth and a sparse beard.

If hormone treatment does not begin early enough – when the patient is about sixteen – he will begin to age at an alarming rate. His skin becomes flabby, supporting tissue collapses and bones become brittle. These changes can only be registered by X-ray at a late stage and are not noted by the patient until he sustains a break. In this state osteoporosis will scarcely respond to treatment.

Untreated bisexuals will stop producing sperm at 35 and from this time onwards they are impotent. If hormone supply is begun early enough the symptoms will for the most part disappear. Patients do indeed remain impotent, ignoring rare exceptions, but Overzier showed that they can be made into men externally which is essential for their mental well-being.

In one case hormone treatment managed to make a body masculine within five months. The patient managed to grow a beard and his bosom disappeared completely. But like all sufferers of the Klinefelter syndrome he will have to be treated with drugs throughout his life to prevent serious relapses.

Paediatrician Professor Andreas Prater of Zurich stated that human growth hormones were now available to counter retardation in growth caused by hormones. This type of treatment is at present ruled out for general practice as one injection costs 100 Marks and two are needed a week. Therefore the well-known testosterones are being used.

This is also the answer to delayed sexual maturity. Here treatment must proceed according to sex. Prader believes that males must be treated as early as possible as, he says they wait impatiently for puberty.

Specialists in internal complaints show great hesitation in using anabolica. This sort of hormone became very topical recently when it was discovered that it was taken in large doses by top-line sportsmen who were fully healthy for no other reason than to improve their performances in international competitions.

Participants of an open discussion at Wiesbaden were unanimous in their opinion that anabolica should not be prescribed to get reconvalescent patients and patients showing general tiredness back on to their feet. They should only be used against osteoporosis, recommended Professor Labhard of Zurich, or against myopathy, as Professor J.R. Bierich of Tübingen said.

As anabolica have an effect on hypophysis, Professor Overzier supposed that they could under certain conditions influence the production of sperm that this controls. This at least would explain the impotence of well-known sportsmen who are suspected of having doped themselves with large doses of anabolica.

Ottmar Katz

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 14 April 1970)

Continued from page 8

author with the most votes then receives the prize. Authors thus make themselves independent of juries whose members are often the same. Benno von Wiese, Erhart Kästner and Manfred Hausmann appear regularly on juries in this country.

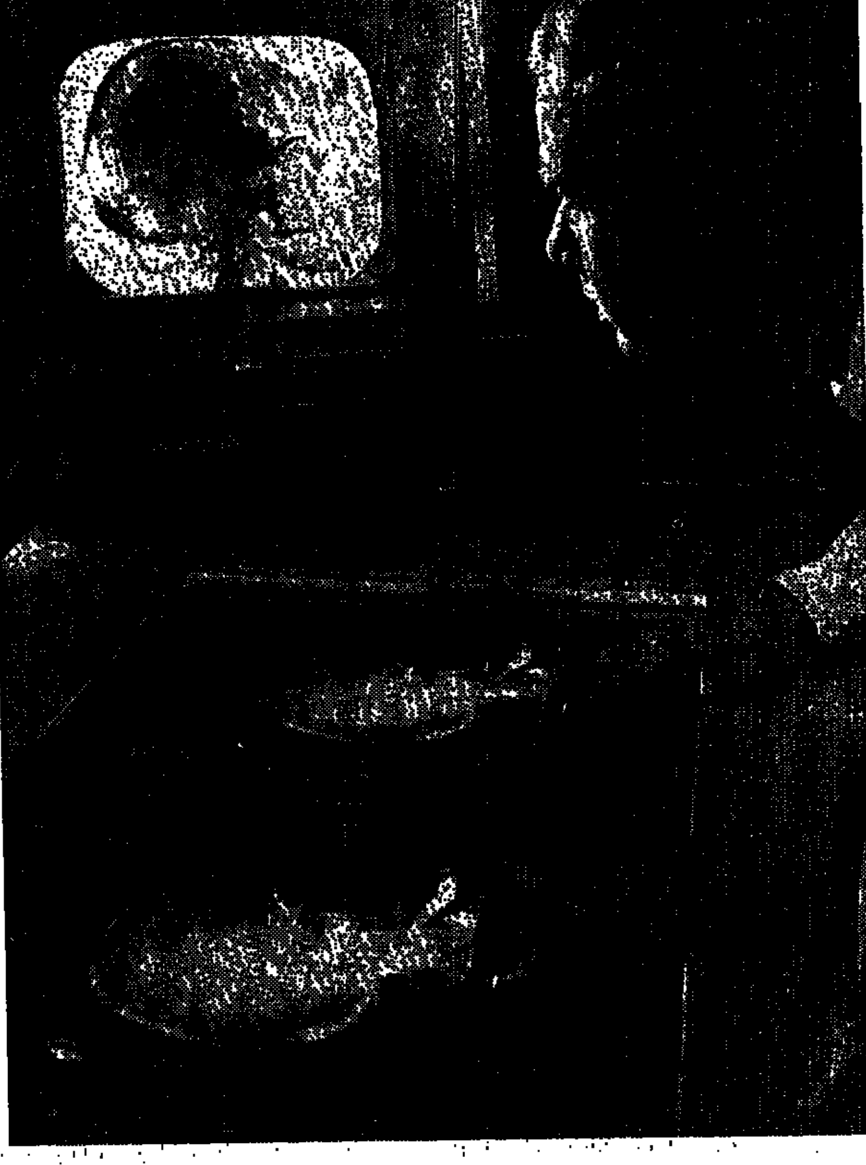
Gruppe 47 awarded its prizes the same as in Britain. In the fifties authors like Günther Eich, Heinrich Böll, Ilse Aichinger, Ingeborg Bachmann and Martin Walser were first discovered and became known to the general public, some of them amassing a personal fortune.

In 1958 a completely unheard-of poet received the prize for the first chapter of his yet unpublished first novel.

Shortly afterwards his name was a household word and today opinion polls show that he is the most well-known author in this country – tin-drummer Günter Grass.

Wolfgang Nagel

(WELT am SONNTAG, 12 April 1970)



New radiology aid developed

X-ray and enlarge sections of the picture so that details can be examined more closely and minute aspects of the organ X-rayed inspected more precisely. Two pictures are superimposed one above the other so that irrelevant details are excluded from the enlarged picture. (Photo: Siemens)

Dissemination of pornography leads to fewer sex crimes

Since pornography has been allowed in Denmark there has been a dramatic decrease in sexual crimes, Joachim Israel, lecturer in sociology at Copenhagen University, told this country's congress of specialists in internal diseases at Wiesbaden.

Hamburg sex researcher Professor Hans Giese stated that as a result of law reform he expected the abolition or at least a weakening of Paragraph 184 of the penal code according to which pornography is liable to punishment.

Professor Israel accompanied his assertion with crime statistics in Copenhagen. One thousand sexual offenders were convicted in the city in 1961. Annual figures for the years 1962 to 1967 ranged from 700 to 900 cases. But as soon as pornography was allowed in 1967 the number of punishable cases decreased to 591. Last year there were only 358.

This dramatic decrease is not due to the tolerant public attitude to sexual crimes and the correspondingly less severe penalties as claimed by the investigation carried out by Danish criminologist Kutschinsky commissioned by the United States Congress.

Professor Israel believes that the decrease of sexual crimes is due to what he calls a channelling of sexuality resulting from the abolition of the ban on pornographic books, films and records which make possible the satisfaction of sexual perversions.

Opponents of an end to the ban on pornography who forecast an increase of crimes if this were to happen are clearly proved wrong by Professor Israel's statesments.

It has also been proved that pornography, available at alomost any newspaper kiosk in Denmark, has no detrimental effect on children and minors. The Danish Legal Medical Council, a conservative institution according to Israel, has established that crude outside influences are not of decisive importance for the psycho-sexual development of children and minors.

As a sociologist Israel undertook an extensive examination on the attitude of Scandinavian youth towards pornography. Questioning people living in a Swedish surburb where pornography is also allowed, the professor found that the standard answer to the question whether there was any interest in pornography was "yes". "We've seen magazines of this kind," they would say, "But they are not so important for us. We can do what is shown there. These magazines are for forty and fifty year olds."

As far as attitude to pornography is concerned the population can be divided into three groups:

People with strong sexual neuroses whose reaction to pornography is one of fear. To protect these people from pornographic stimulation the Swedish government ruled that pornography should be displayed in shop windows.

A numerically large group look at pornography with a mixture of curiosity and resistance. After overcoming initial resistance this group shows a positive attitude towards pornography. Professor Israel supposes that this group contains people for whom sexual contacts have become a matter of routine within a monogamous marriage. Pornography, he says, can activate the marital sexuality of this type of couple.

The third group is free from sexual fear. It has a neutral attitude as pornography means little to it.

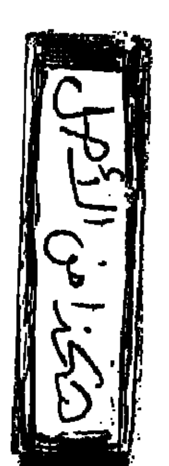
Psychological tests showed that the strongest opponents of pornography were people who have a clean, idealistic view of a pure world without problems. They want to hold on to this at all costs and defend something that does not exist at all.

Israel and Giese agreed that lifting the ban on pornography did not mean true sexual liberation. Giese expects that the pornography market, part of which is still at present very crude and primitive, will improve considerably in quality under consumer pressure.

The one basic thing that troubles Israel about pornography is that it conserves the traditional sexual roles. The woman always appears as the object of the man.

Israel does not believe that pornography is a significant moral problem. Its importance, he says, is greatly overestimated. Future generations will shake their heads and wonder whether we had no greater problems. He adds that it will all be passé in fifty years time.

(Münchner Merkur, 11 April 1970)



■ THE ECONOMY

Berlin's future lies with the West



In and around Berlin there has recently been considerable activity. Apart from details of a more local significance two complex matters have come to the fore. One is the question of sensible and realistic aims in economic policy, the other is debates about the possibilities and limitations of trade with the East from Berlin.

Although the former capital city's economy has shared in the Federal Republic's economic boom in recent years Berlin has not been able to keep right up with the Federal Republic but has been chasing its heels.

Berlin's Senate concludes from this that the city has not achieved its minimum aim, that is to say keeping right in line with this country.

In the long run, however, the Berlin economic goal must remain to achieve economic growth at a *higher* level than in the Federal Republic so that the gap can be closed between Berlin's gross product and that of the other major industrial centres in this country.

Economic circles in the city are not entirely happy about this way of looking at things. They consider that it takes little account of the realities.

If Berlin's economy has succeeded in keeping close behind the economic growth of the Federal Republic it could be considered to have reached more than a minimum aim when the situation on the labour market and the city's unique political situation is considered.

The respectable trade figures in Berlin are to a large extent the result of extensive investments which were at a far higher level than the Federal Republic average and led to progress in productivity which has for years been greater than in Federal Republic industry.

The chamber of trade and and commerce in Berlin has given a reminder that in the past ten years the average pay packet for each worker in Berlin has increased by 107 per cent. The compares with 93 per cent in the Federal Republic as a whole.

Measured in accordance with each person resident in Berlin and not just workers the increase has been around 95 per cent in this same period as compared with an average of only 79 per cent in the Federal Republic.

These productivity successes are concrete proof of a continuing improvement in the qualitative structure of Berlin's economy.

Moreover they go to show that the beneficial operation of Berlin aid legislation as well as other measures carried out to promote the former capital's economy has borne fruit.

Economists agree that it is problematic to try to carry out an accurate comparison between Berlin and other large cities in the Federal Republic since Berlin has no hinterland with which it can trade and which makes a considerable contribution to the gross product of major cities in this country.

For as long as the economic activity and economic scope of the non-industrial suburbs of Berlin fails to expand to any appreciable degree on account of the unique political situation of the city it will remain a Utopian ideal to hope that the gross product per capita in Berlin could ever hope to match that of leading industrial centres in the Federal Republic even over a long period.

The chamber of trade and commerce maintains that Berlin's economy must aim in the future to continue in step with the overall economic growth of the Federal Republic.

This requires further investments above the average level and sufficiently high increases in the number of people available to swell the labour force in order to counteract the effects of the unfavourable average age of Berliners.

The possibilities and limitations of trade with the East are of particularly great interest to industrialists and economists in West Berlin. A glance at the economic and political realities should convince even the one or two odd dreamers that Berlin's economic future lies every bit as much as its past in the West. The economic facts express this clearly.

Eighteen per cent of Berlin's industrial production, which last year reached a total of more than 15,000 million Marks, remained in the city itself. Two-thirds went to the Federal Republic, about fourteen per cent was exported to other countries in the West and only two per cent was taken by the East Bloc – one half of this by the German Democratic Republic.

A quick check of exports and imports shows that West Berlin buys considerably more from the East Bloc than the communist countries import from it.

Most notably, imports to West Berlin from the German Democratic Republic are almost twice as much as trade in the opposite direction.

[illegible] German Democratic Republic other Comecon countries profit indirectly [illegible] Berlin's belonging to the legal, ec[onomic] and finance system of the Fede[ral Re]public. If West Berlin were not [...] in inter-German trade and in the F[ederal] Republic's foreign trade relati[ons ...] would no longer be possible to [...] more to Berlin than was bought from [...]

However far we are prepared to [...] neighbouring countries in the com[...] East it is of unequal importance [...] economic future of Berlin how [...] exports to the Federal Republic a[...] far its sales in the rest of the [...] world develop.

For West Berlin trade with the [...] no alternative to integration w[ith the] West.

A. R[...]

(CHRIST UND WELT, 17 A[pril 1970])

Revaluation s[...] provokes heat[ed] discussions

No other question concerning [...] mic policy has led to such [...] discussion and argument in the p[ast] years as revaluation of the Mark.

Even today, six months after the [de]cision was taken to upvalue the Ma[rk] around nine per cent it only take[s the] slightest pretext to arouse once mo[re] the old pros and contras.

At the recent celebrations in Fra[nkfurt] to mark the hundredth anniversary [of the] establishment of the Deutsche Bank [Pro]fessor Schiller gave a speech that [was] obviously intended as a justification [of] the step he took last autumn.

According to the Economic [Affairs] Minister subsequent events have p[roved] that the government acted in acco[rdance] with the recommendations made [con]tinuously by economic experts, that [is to] say a step by step adjustment of exch[ange rates] to [...] levels.

Reminiscences awoke surprising e[mo]tions among the top economists who [met] in the banqueting room of the Deuts[che] Bank in cordial circumstances.

In the talks that were held among the economic VIP's the old contradictions and differences of opinion clashed a[s] as violently as they did a year ago in [the] public discussions.

Hatchets were drawn and several fa[ces] were red with emotion as they made th[eir] point forcefully. It was a stirring scene.

Every observer of the economic sc[ene] must be convinced today that revaluation of the Mark was a necessary and [un]avoidable measure. In the six months th[at] have elapsed since, the factors of eco[n]omic booming have only slightly subsid[ed].

The labour market is as empty as ev[er] with a high level of overemployment. The number of foreign workers in this coun[try] has reached an all-time high. In almost every branch of industry unions have been able to secure higher pay. Company investments are at a higher level than ever before.

On many economic fronts prices are climbing gaily higher every day. What would have happened if the Mark had not been revalued?

Whatever objections we may have to Professor Schiller's way of tackling the problem of economic overheating, it is certain that in one aspect he was quite right. The little post-revaluation that came about as a result of trends in the exchange rate of the dollar on the international currency market is every bit as helpful and necessary towards economic stability here as was upvaluation of the Mark six months ago.

Anyway there are signs that the braking measures taken by the Bundesbank are beginning take effect.

It would be a pity if these heated discussions were perpetuated until new currency policy holocausts threatened us. There is no need for this.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 April 1970)

The intricacies of new monopoly legislation

Although preparatory work on a reform of monopolies legislation has been going on for some years economists were surprised when an expert advisory panel's draft bill evolved at the Economic Affairs Ministry for amendments to monopoly legislation was published recently.

Leaders of industrial branches of the economy state that in recent months there have been several opportunities for those involved to voice their opinions on the basic principles of reform.

But in the draft bill, it is objected, original plans have been made considerably harsher. Considering that these measures have a large area of application and involve fundamental alterations to the right of free competition a number of unclear provisions in this draft have still to be checked carefully.

The leaders of industrial branchs of the economy are voicing doubts about whether such extensive measures are required to ensure and promote healthy competition.

What has been mentioned in Karl Schiller's Ministry has given rise to particular problems and could place trading banks under the control of a monopolies commission in the future.

The Federal Republic Bankers Association has already rejected the planned merger control. It considers that such measures are anachronistic in a time when industrial concentration is considered a vital part of economic development in all industrial nations and in some cases is even demanded by the State.

The trading banks only get together and agree on the interest rate level in the case of "Spareck" interest, according to a spokesman at the Deutsche Bank. This, he said, was quite in order since this interest rate could not be viewed from a commercial standpoint alone. In the case of time deposits, however, free competition was ensured.

At the moment it is simply a question of a draft bill drawn up by experts at the Economic Affairs Ministry. This will be placed before a conference to which seventy industrial unions will be invited in order to discuss it.

Debates in the Bundestag about amendments to monopoly legislation will not begin until the autumn. There will be ample opportunity before then to discuss the extremely complicated material involved in this legislation.

The chances of this amendment to the legislation becoming law depend to a large extent on the Free Democrats' attitude towards it. Conservative elements in the FDP wanted to reject the draft bill outright.

Firstly the party agreed to take the line that it was for the introduction of merger control in principle but considered that further extensive discussion was necessary to get the legal niceties in order.

The Social Demoncrat side of the party as well has not reached complete agreement on this matter, in particular with regard to the planned methods of control.

The system of fixed prices for resale as sanctioned by monopolies legislation will not be affected in principle by the amendments to this legislation.

In the draft it is planned to make re-sale price maintenance subject to a system of declaration that has been used up until now. Taking into consideration the fact that the FDP is a partner in a coalition government the mildest form of amendment has been chosen on this score.

Modern cartel policies have to perform the difficult task of making two diverse aims compatible. On the one hand the formation of large efficiently operating industrial units is desirable and in many cases indispensible if an exporting country, such as the Federal Republic, is to hold its position on the international market.

The merger of Thyssen and Mannesmann in the pipes and tubing industry which was approved by European Economic Community authorities is an ideal basis for the international competetive market. But on the home market this merger has meant virtually the complete eradication of competitiveness in the pipes and tubing business.

More recent examples are the merger of Hapag and Lloyd and the inevitable merger of Siemens and AEG, which are to be welcomed.

On the other hand the purely economic advantages of the merger of large companies into gigantic ones is countered by the risks involved in such conglomerations of economic might leading to organisations which overwhelm or even monopolise the market.

If the continuing process of concentration kills all industrial rivalry, the motive power, accelerator and brake of the economy then the system will be reductio ad absurdam. The extraordinary complications in monopolies legislation are a clear indication of the difficulty if not in all practical cases.

Whatever the final form of the amendments to this legislation they will have to involve a careful appreciation of economic considerations and what is desirable with regard to the home market in every single case.

Walter Slotosch

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 15 April 1970)

FUEL AND POWER POLICY

Continued squabbles about natural gas prices

CHRIST UND WELT

Contracts signed two years ago with natural gas suppliers in the Netherlands compel *Gasversorgung Süddeutschland (GVS)* to take increasing amounts each year from the supply sources in Slochteren.

They must buy annually up to 2,000 million cubic metres of natural gas between now and 1977.

Each cubic metre of natural gas gives 8,400 calories, twice as much as present-day gas from refineries and coalworks.

Ruhrgas a few weeks ago completed a long-term deal with the Soviet exporting company *Soyuzneftexport* committing itself to taking increasing yearly quotas of natural gas until 1979 when it will buy 3,000 million cubic metres. Each cubic metre of the Russian natural gas has a calorie count of 9,700.

The different heating qualities of these two types of natural gas have so far prevented GVS putting out its pipelines in the direction of Bavaria via the Iller.

That certain difference in the heating power is also responsible in part for the fact that the Bavarians have not accepted the hand proferred them by Dutch natural gas salesmen.

Negotiations had been going on with the Soviet Union for years about sales of natural gas. Different coefficients applied to dealings with the Soviets firstly for the measures and later the price of the gas.

Explorations carried out to date lead us to believe that the richest deposits of natural gas lie under the Soviet Union. Nowhere in the world is thought to have more.

It is estimated that the total supply of natural gas on Soviet territory is nine million cubic metres.

The Federal Republic's requirements of natural gas will be 25,000 million cubic metres in 1975, so it is estimated. Half of this, about 13,000 million tons in all, will be drawn from the natural gas fields of of Holland's NAM, a joint subsidiary company of Esso and Shell.

The balance of payments shows how the Russians have a great deal to offer here. Their yearly consumption of 140,000 million cubic metres is considerably below their production level of 165,000 million cubic metres.

Western Europe, or to put it more precisely, the European Economic Community, is not badly off for natural gas reserves. It is thought to have around 2,400,000 million cubic metres which is largely situated under Dutch soil and by the coast under the North Sea and the Ämel Canal.

At the moment a kind of calorie-frontier is passing diagonally through the Federal Republic, and it would be almost true to say the whole of Western Europe.

Bavaria is getting Soviet natural gas delivered by courtesy of *Ruhrgas*; Austria, Italy and France all consume high-grade natural gas of 9,000 calories.

The Netherlands and the whole south-west of the Federal Republic utilises natural gas with 8,400 calories heating value.

For the Bavarian Minister of Economic Affairs, Schedl and his counterpart in Baden-Würtemberg there remains at this time no alternative but to pay lip service to closer cooperation on the lines of a "gas community".

The construction of the last gas pipeline not yet built between Augsburg and Ulm is now being planned according to spokesmen in Munich and Stuttgart.

In any case the technical difficulties appear to be greater than the political hitches by all accounts. In fact the latter may not exist at all.

For as long as there are two different kinds of natural gas with two different calorie contents and the two are not readily interchangeable the Swabians of Ulm will remain true to gas from the West, whereas the Swabians of Augsburg will burn gas that has come from the Soviet Union, as soon as the supplies are ready. In this context the year 1972 is being named.

The year 1972 is being awaited with a certain degree of worry in the Bavarian chemicals triangle around Burghausen an der Salzach. So far in this area the reliable cubic metres of gas from the Bavarian natural gas sources with guaranteed supplies have been burnt.

This will be the case this year and next. But the bubble of gas under Upper Bavarian soil is not inexhaustible.

There is no concrete proof that this supply of natural gas will suffice for the city of Munich as well as for the chemical centre on the border with Austria by 1972.

It is possible that, from 1973 on, the first cubic metres of natural gas to be drawn from Russia will come to Burghausen and public requirements will be met with Bavarian gas.

Even now both parties are testing whether natural gas from supply sources in the Ukraine could not be taken across the border at Marktredwitz by as early as 1972.

There remains in reserve the possibility that gas could be piped from the north-west. This would pass through the pipeline between Ulm and Augsburg that has not yet been completed.

This gas which has a lower calorie value would be used exclusively by industry. It would have immediate application in power stations, according to technicians.

Bavaria's example, the possible gap in natural gas supplies the year after next, and the possibilities Bavaria has pointed out for filling this gap, all are a clear indication of what the two Economic Affairs Ministers confirmed without the slightest shadow of doubt at the BP refinery in Vohburg.

Close cooperation on the provision of natural gas has become a vital necessity.

The present and the expected growth rates in the future speak for themselves. It is estimated that between now and 1975 natural gas will increase in importance until it becomes around thirty per cent of energy consumption in 1975.

In EEC countries it is expected that natural gas will in 1980 have an eight per cent share in the total energy consumption, if not more.

At the present moment natural gas makes up about five per cent of the Common Market power consumption.

Long-term prognoses stretching to the year 2000 credit oil with a share of the total energy consumption of thirty per cent, atomic power should likewise stand at thirty per cent, natural gas will be at ten per cent and coal which today holds forty per cent of this market will be reduced to a mere eight per cent.

The advantages of natural gas have been recognised by planners and salesmen in the electricity industry as well.

The leap from coal power across the broad chasm to atomic-fired power stations seemed to be too foolhardy to many power station managements.

In other words there has been a definite hesitancy about switching to atomic-fired power stations.

By rule of thumb it is shown that there would be a power output of 600 megawatts, but to reach this figure is costly and makes great technical demands.

The trend is towards the simplicity of power stations fired by natural gas. These can be installed in any area where it seems economically viable. Atomic power stations are not so popular that every parish would like to see one erected on its doorstep.

Indirectly too, natural gas benefits from the stoutly defended tax on oil (1,000 million Marks). According to the statute this tax should be lifted at the end of 1971. But no clear ruling has yet been made on this. On the other hand there is talk in Bonn of extending the tax on oil.

When Bavaria's Economic Affairs Minister emphasised the necessity of doing away with this tax in four years at the latest it was certainly not in the spirit of a five million ton refinery that he was speaking.

The power supply market is flexible and open to adaptation and particularly on the producers' side brooks no distortions due to competitiveness.

Interesting factors crop up if ever the tax on fuel oil is lifted. If it is every oil-fired power station is immediately in a superior positon to its atomic-fired competitors, as Minister Scheel at the Ingolstadt Refinery Centre claims.

The long-term effect of developments in fuel and power supply as shown on the Federal Republic horizon can be seen in the present day. The completion of the contract to supply Soviet natural gas to *Ruhrgas* brought the price of Dutch natural gas at the border tumbling.

For 1,000 units Federal Republic purchasers had paid to date 59 Pfennigs. From 1 January the price was lowered by seven and a half per cent. For the consumer this meant a cut of four and a half per cent since transport costs were not reduced.

The price for the Russian gas at the Czech border is 53 Pfennigs per 1,000 units.

Italy which at its initial negotations with the Russians for the purchase of natural gas offered 45 Pfennigs per 1,000 units was flatly rejected.

Helmut Roesler

(CHRIST UND WELT, 17 April 1970)

Widia shines like a diamond for Krupp

Substantial growth rates are to be expected on all products. On patented products income is about twice as high as expenditure."

Such proud sentences are to be found in the opening paragraphs of the series of company reports of the Friedrich Krupp Limited, Widia Factory in Essen.

These reports are designed by the Krupp organisation to make the operating methods of its dependent companies and subsidiary organisations clearer to the public.

Suppositions that the concern was seeking with these reports to praise itself and claim some publicity were not confirmed to the press by business leaders of Widia.

Presumably this hard-metal business, left in the shadows by official statistics, was trying to enlighten people, to throw light on its strong position on the market.

This Krupp subsidiary began operating in 1926 as the first producer in the world of sintered hard metals. It bore the registered trade mark, valid all over the world, Widia, the name coming from "wie Diamant" (like diamond).

Today the annual production level stands at five hundred tons – including the product of seven foreign subsidiaries. This makes the company the fourth largest in the free world, beaten only by Sweden's Sandvik Concern and two American manufacturers of hard metals and tools made from these metals.

With a twenty per cent level of exports Essen's Widia covers thirty to 35 per cent of this country's annual requirements of raw hard metals and tools, around three hundred or 350 tons.

What this strong position on a market that is growing strongly means in terms of profit can only be outlined very vaguely on account of competitors who are even more silent about their affairs. It is said that returns are average.

But the business managers at Widia were all the more keen to announce figures for growth rates which show this concern to be a growth rate champion in the overall Krupp concern.

Not including the 34,700,000 Marks (last year 27,900,000 Marks) turnover of the seven foreign subsidiaries (this coming largely from their own production) Widia raised its turnover in 1969 by 31 per cent, which was twice as great a rise as in the previous year.

It went up from 116 million Marks to 152 million Marks with a 22 (last year 22.7) per cent export share.

Widia's growth rate is expected to remain above the average. The first symptom of this is that at 12,500,000 Marks investments will be twice as high as on average in recent years.

Of this money four million Marks are to be set aside in order to double the capacity of the Essen magnet manufacturing works.

Very high growth rates are expected in this branch of the industry since requirements have jumped up as a result of the use of magnets in modern telecommunications methods.

Widia had about ten per cent of the Federal Republic market in magnets last year and scored a 33 per cent increase in turnover.

In 1969 dental equipment showed a 31 per cent increase in turnover with a fifty per cent export quota. Dental equipment and magnets form together one third of Widia's overall turnover.

High growth rates are also expected in hard metals and tools, as well as abrasives and spikes, which form the other two-thirds of the company's turnover.

It is expected that there will be a considerable expansion of the market for hard-metal pieces for the prevention of wear and tear and protection against corrosion.

Widia is hoping that these developments will lead to a further advance in the processing grade of its hard metal products and at the same time rationalisation as a result of more series productions, which are at present at fifty per cent.

Nevertheless, personnel costs at Widia swallowed up about thirty per cent of the company's turnover in 1969 (34 per cent in the previous year).

Material costs were a good third of turnover.

(DIE WELT, 16 April 1970)

■ BUSINESS

Colour TV competes with the car as consumer favourite



Colour TV, second only to the motor-car as a consumer favourite at the moment, recently celebrated a proud event. Roughly two and a half years after the inauguration of colour transmissions the number of colour TV licences issued has passed the million-mark.

This swift development has exceeded trade expectations and stands in stark contrast to the trend in the United States, where sales of colour sets were poor for several years after their introduction.

There are three main reasons why colour TV has made such relatively swift progress in this country.

Easter Sunday last can be considered one milestone in the development of colour TV. It was the day on which the two channels launched colour transmissions of most news programmes. A number of retailers promptly registered increased customer interest in colour sets.

A second sales boost is expected (and certainly hoped for) from the football World Cup transmissions from Mexico, all of which will be broadcast in colour.

A decline in complaints, mainly about the quality of the colour, has been a further factor in the growing interest in colour TV. Test transmissions in 1967 and even later generally did more to put potential customers off colour than they did to encourage them to buy a set.

Glaring colours in brightly-lit shop windows made colour TV appear tasteless and unskilled sales staff went to great lengths to change normal skin colour into red or green by adjusting the controls. Broadcasting companies were not too fussy in their choice of programme either, often plumping for old American Westerns or detective serials.

Following objections lodged by the trade this state of affairs improved somewhat, particularly as regards the test card. At any hour of the day customers can see for themselves that this country's Pal colour system is good quality. First-rate slides screened on a well-adjusted set convince even the most hardened sceptic.

The third reason for the trend to colour is the gradual realisation that receivers as now marketed are not only as near perfect as they are likely to become but also unlikely to become cheaper. At the beginning of this year prices even rose by up to five per cent.

The most expensive individual component by far, the cathode ray tube, cannot be made much cheaper no matter how long the run, leading manufacturers maintain.

Over the last two and a half years there have been several attempts to make spectacular price cuts by launching smaller-screen sets. Undertaken for the most part by mail order firms and supermarkets, they have remained largely unsuccessful.

The leader among colour sets is the 25-inch screen, which apart from a few independent manufacturers costs between 2,000 and 2,500 Marks depending on accessories.

One domestic manufacturer's attempt to market an eleven-inch portable costing 998 Marks soon fell foul of technical hitches and insufficient demand. Yet there has been a run on portable black-and-white sets, which are increasingly being bought as the family's second TV receiver.

TV rental firms that rent colour sets have grown by leaps and bounds. Telerent of Munich, the leading firm in the field with more than seventeen branches all over the country guarantees free installation, servicing and the option to change to a more up-to-date set at no extra cost for a mere seventy Marks a month.

Telerent, with its five million Marks capital, is backed by British money and rents sets for a minimum period of three years.

Manufacturers and retailers are already making bold forecasts for 1972, the year of the Munich Olympics. By then there are expected to be about four million colout TV receivers in this country, so that one household in five or six out of a total of 22 million would have colour.

It remains to be seen whether colour cassette programmes will be screened by 1972. At the present stage of development this is hardly to be expected to any great degree.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11 April 1970)

Job aspirations among youth unchanged

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

After comprehensive surveys th[...] out the Federal Republic in[...] West Berlin the Federal Institu[...] Labour Exchanges and Unemplo[...] Insurance in Nuremberg has come [...] conclusion that there has been [...] fluctuation in young people's [...] wishes.

The Federal Institute, responsi[...] this country's labour adminis[...] confirmed that young males still [...] jobs in building and repairs. Eng[...] technicians, tool-makers, [...] mechanics and motor mechanics stan[...] the centre of interest. Last year a thi[...] all males seeking advice were prepar[...] enter one of these professions.

About a tenth wanted office j[...] administrative posts. An equal n[...] were interested in the traditional [...] and other production industries.

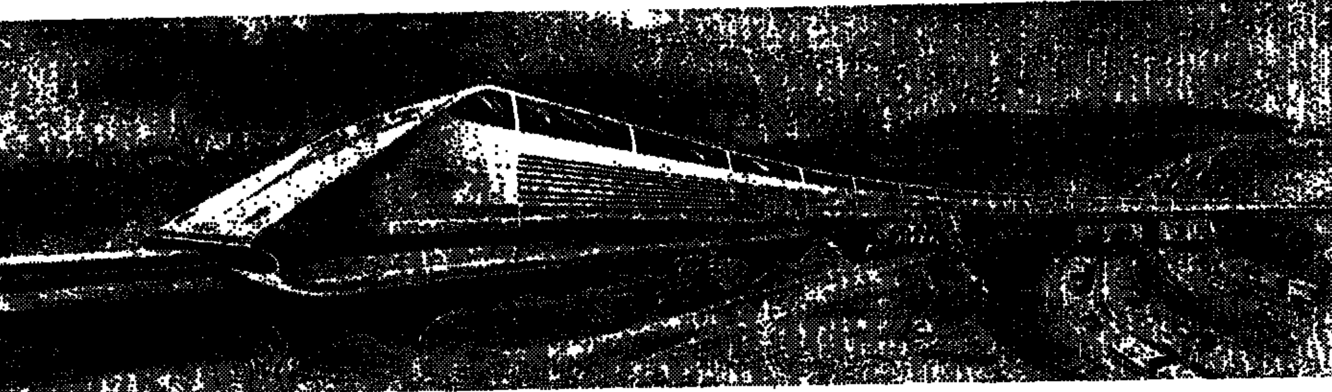
A quarter of the girls who s[...] advice preferred a job classified [...] "teaching, helping". Almost a [...] showed interest in an office job [...] some twelve per cent wanted to [...] sales job.

While some two thirds of th[...] positions could be occupied in pre[...] years, around 45.1 per cent of th[...] positions for boys and 40.9 per ce[...] girls remained unoccupied in 1969.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 11 Apr[...]

■ TRANSPORTATION

High speed rail from Hamburg to Munich


An artist's impression of a 250 mph train of the future (Photo: August Eigener)

It is common knowledge that in contrast to the hectic development of road and air transport the Great Iron Way has hardly progressed at all.

Not even the slickest of advertising slogans is going to convince passengers in rattling sleeping cars and buffets that what Deutsche Bundesbahn, the German Federal Railways, have to offer travellers is anything but hopelessly outmoded.

Not even the most expensive conceivable modernisation of the existing railway network is going to hold forth anything in the way of future prospects. Speed cannot be increased to any great extent without reducing comfort and increasing the risk of accidents. Standardised Western European gauges and distances between tracks make it impossible to widen load space and double, say, the potential payload per goods waggon.

Developments in the United States have proved that the good old railway has long ceased to be competitive over medium and long distances in the face of the passenger and postal traffic potential of air transport.

Hardly a week passes in the United States without some rail service or other being discontinued. There are railway companies in the United States that are deliberately trying to divest themselves of uneconomic services.

Carriages and stations are allowed to go to the dogs and passengers are treated like bulk cargo. As a result passengers voluntarily desert en masse to air and road transport.

In the years gone by there has been trouble enough with the railways in this country too. The only way to stem the tide of the Bundesbahn's annual deficit of approximately 1,000 million Marks has been to rationalise and close lines down.

Yet the signs are that this country has some idea of how to give the ailing railways a new lease of life. Door-to-door freight traffic has, for instance, been introduced. So have particularly comfortable expresses with shorthand typists on board and licensed observation cars.

In the final analysis, though, the unexpected success of car sleepers will have tipped the scales in favour of serious thought as to the future of the railways.

The problem is straightforward enough. Can rail transport in the face of swiftly increasing road and air traffic not only survive but also operate economically, that is to say make a profit?

An army of computers has been fed and a multitude of engineers' brains have been entrusted with any amount of relevant data, including the traffic statistics of chronically cramped European roads and the waiting-lists for domestic Lufthansa services.

The outcome was encouraging. Computer controls flashed, engineers reflected and came to the conclusion that the railways will be a mode of transport with a future in the year 2000 provided:

1) that the railway discards its image of lumbering old iron and aims for speed instead, and
2) that from the word go the entire system is planned on a Continent-wide level to complement or relieve the burden on both road and air transport.

In words of one syllable the incentive for the long-distance haulier on the autobahn must be that he will reach his destination complete with vehicle and freight more quickly by rail while the air traveller or air freight forwarder must be able to view the railway as a feasible alternative to air travel should the required service be fully booked or cancelled because of bad weather.

Back in 1968 transport specialists and engineers put their heads together at the Bundesbahn's instigation and came up with the idea of high-speed rail.

The progress so far made by the men involved in the so-called guiderail project remains classified information but it is a more than promising sign when railwaymen allow Messerschmidt-Bölkow-Blohm, the country's major aircraft company, and Strabag, one of the most experienced firms in civil engineering, a considerable say.

The Munich planners for the year 2000 have now shown a little of their hand. Railway enthusiasts can at long last gain some idea of the way their favourite mode of transport is going to look.

To begin with let it be said that the high-speed rail system of the year 2000 will be one of the most fascinating modes of transport ever thought up by Man.

Starting from a north-south axis it will gradually open up Europe. The first main line will extend from Hamburg to Munich via Cologne, Frankfurt and Stuttgart.

Railway tracks as we know them can be forgotten. A completely new guiderail system that can be laid in virtually a straight line and has nothing in common with past proposals will provide the groundwork.

Propulsion will be non-mechanical. The wheel can be forgotten. High-speed rail trains will literally glide along on air or magnetic cushions both noiselessly and smoothly at 200 to 250 miles an hour.

Trains cannot derail. Load space width is to be doubled. Closed goods waggons designed on aerodynamic principles will accommodate two buses or lorries side by side. On- and off-loading will be automatic. So will the entire service.

In the year 2000 a high-speed rail train will speed between Hamburg and Munich every four minutes. One result will be a revolution in road haulage. Lorries will virtually have to disappear from the autobahn. Forty thousand of them per day can be conveyed eight times faster by rail than by road. Commercial vehicles will function as little more than delivery vans to and from the nearest railway station.

High-speed rail holds forth the same prospect for a motorist travelling long distances. He can drive on in Hamburg and stay put in his car if he wishes until reaching Munich two and a half hours later. Panoramic carriage windows in transparent synthetics will make the journey a pleasure.

The swift succession of services and computerised handling will provide a virtually non-stop link enabling anyone to get from A to B at maximum speed.

There will be no changing trains. Passengers for Frankfurt will take the Frankfurt train, passengers for Stuttgart the "Flying Stuttgarter." Services will be pre-programmed.

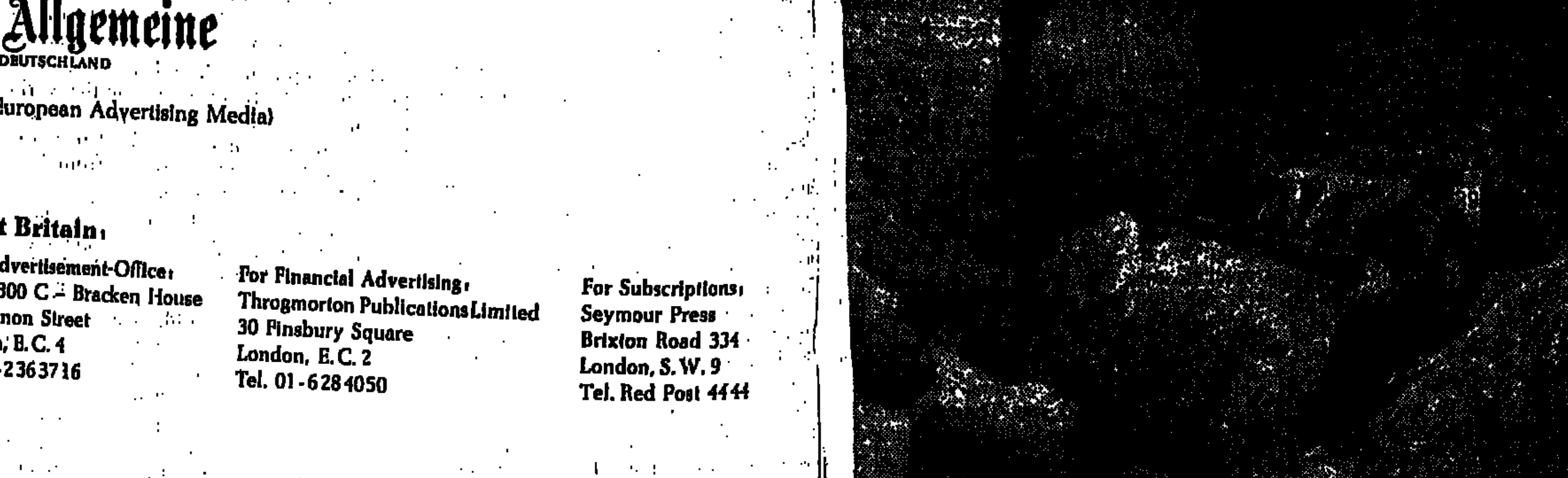
Traffic will be supervised from Hamburg, Frankfurt and Munich. A threefold security system will maintain or vary the distance between trains. Collisions will be impossible.

Messerschmidt-Bölkow Blohm engineers have estimated that the Hamburg-Munich line will cost 12,000 million Marks in all. It will, though, be so efficient that at present fares it would pay for itself within six years.

This revolutionary project is to earn everyone money, however. Despite the time saving in turnover the transport costs for heavy vehicles will be less than by road. Hauliers will save money and drivers nerves. The risk of accidents will be less, too. The same goes for private motorists.

Interest in high-speed rail has already been shown in the United States. Other European countries have already made contact in order to link on to the north-south axis. In time there will, for instance, be direct services from Cologne to London, from Frankfurt to Paris and from Munich to Rome and Vienna.

One point is clear. The high-speed rail system that is developing on Munich drawing-boards will not only have taken over from the railway as we know it by the year 2000; it will also relieve a great deal of pressure on long-distance road traffic. (WELT am SONNTAG, 12 April 1970)



Robot dynamite transporter

Gutehoffnungshütte Sterkrade have developed an underground robot for work in mines, particularly to be used to carry dynamite to the mining face. The forward bucket can haul 45 tons up to 350 yards to the conveyor belt. Its compact structure enables it to pass through small width galleries in mines. The vehicle has helped increase production by 58 per cent. (Photo: GHH)

Krupp's plan passenger cassettes for Jumbo jets

Krupp's research and development division has devised a means of containerised processing of passengers waiting for their jumbo jet that will reduce turn-round time to about ten minutes.

By 1980 airports in this country will be handling at least 100 million passengers a year. Chicago's two airports alone (the busiest in the world, of course) will [illegible] tween them.

In five years' time the present volume of passenger traffic will have doubled, in ten years' time it will have trebled.

Krupp's have devised an airport for the jumbo era that not only cuts turn-round time to the minimum but also provides passengers with unprecedented airport comfort. The 'Put' (passenger-unit-transport) system consists of container-like mobile waiting-lounges that are inserted into the gaping maw of the aircraft like cassettes.

Passengers are processed before their flight lands. Instead of waiting in one of the lounges to be called to a bay over loudspeakers they then take a seat in the mobile waiting-room destined for their flight.

These passenger units contain exchangeable kitchens, washrooms and toilets. A fork-lift platform conveys units from aircraft to terminal building and back like cassettes in a sideways-on tape-rack.

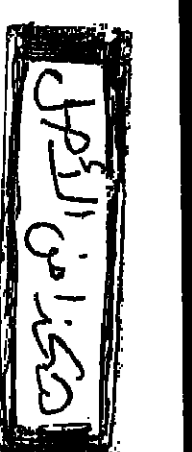
The aircraft opens its bow and the arriving passenger unit rolls out of the stern on rollers and is hoisted into place on a vacant rack in the terminal building. At the same time the departing unit is inserted into the bow of the aircraft.

Within ten minutes 500 passengers have been disembarked and embarked. Aircraft that have not been fully booked can take on freight containers.

The most rational solution is to have two storeys of passenger and freight containers. This does away with the chief problem, that of luggage. The passenger takes his luggage with him into his container and has it at the ready as soon as he lands, just like in the railway train.

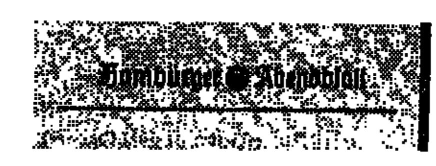
In this way the time an aircraft waits on the runway between landing and take-off can be cut to ten minutes, during which time fuel tanks can be refilled and checks carried out. At present far smaller aircraft take between twenty minutes and an hour and a half.

(Münchner Merkur, 15 April 1970)



■ OUR WORLD

Silence in court from the Rosenheim poltergeist



Rosenheim's poltergeist, which disrupted a lawyer's office in the Bavarian town in November and December 1967 and gained world-wide infamy has won its first victory – in front of Traunstein county court.

The Viennese Paul Zsolnay publishing company has been given permission to release its book "Falsche Geister, echte Schwindler" (Fake Spooks and Genuine Swindlers) but with parts censored out.

A chamber at the Traunstein court threatened members of the publishing company with heavy fines or up to six months imprisonment if it did not expurgate certain passages in the chapter entitled "The Rosenheim Spook Spoof".

The court granted a partial injunction to lawyer Sigmund Adam, 62, against the publishing house.

The spooky poltergeist of Rosenheim which for a time turned the lawyer's office into a madhouse did little more at the two day hearing at Traunstein than poison the atmosphere. Gone were the days of the wild pranks and eerie noises of the most active poltergeist ever recorded. But to get rid of the uncanny spook which he had not summoned, but which he had exploited, was not so easy for Sigmund Adam.

The latest confrontation with the ghost [illegible] book "Falsche Geister, echte Schwindler" published by Zsolnay Verlag in 1969. The book opens with the chapter "The Rosenheim Spook Spoof" contributed by the Viennese author Alwin Neumann, 60.

Neumann is not only an author and an artist, but an expert on conjurors' tricks and similar spheres for the Viennese police force.

It was so to speak dual professional interest that occasioned Alwin Neumann together with two Viennese journalists to visit Sigmund Adam in early 1968 in his office.

At that time he mentioned nothing of his actual intentions to the unsuspecting Adam.

Adam said: "The men gave out that I was dealing with another Neumann, a lecturer at Vienna University, who was doing scientific research into occult phenomena along with a team of colleagues."

It was for this reason that Neumenn's later résumée of the meeting in Rosenheim was not of a kind to cause the lawyer great pleasure! Neumann's version of what happened in the lawyer's office made the whole story sound like a fabrication, manipulated as a deception.

Adam had eye-witnesses to back up his statement of what really happened in his office before the Traunstein court. It was stated that fuses burnt out, there were bangs just like short circuits, light bulbs exploded, fluorescent lighting strips fell out of their holders, and without anyone pushing them chandeliers started swaying.

The telephone tinkled like a mad thing. The post office claimed that there had been sixty calls to the time service within a single hour, although no one in the office had dialed 0119.

Even when the post office installed a new apparatus with a lock on the dial calls were chalked up without anyone using the phone at all.

Sigmund Adam suspected that electromagnetic fields that could not be explained were causing all the trouble and called in Rosenheim municipal authorities to restore order.

Acting company manager Paul Brunner said in court: "We brought in an electricity expert who checked if all the fuses were in order and even rewired the whole office. But the fluctuations in current which sometimes sent the power up from ten amps to fifty amps, the ghostly electrical explosions and swinging lamps continued.

"That was not all. Pictures on the wall began to move of their own accord. The fluid from a disused copying machine began to squirt all over the place."

In the lawyer's office everyone was at the end of his tether so Dr Friedberg Karger from the Munich Institute for Plasmaphysics was brought in to test the work done by the municipal authorities and try to find an explanation for the strange occurrences.

Brought as a witness before the Traunstein court Dr Karger could only add: "All causes known to physics, even those involving deception, were ruled out by investigations."

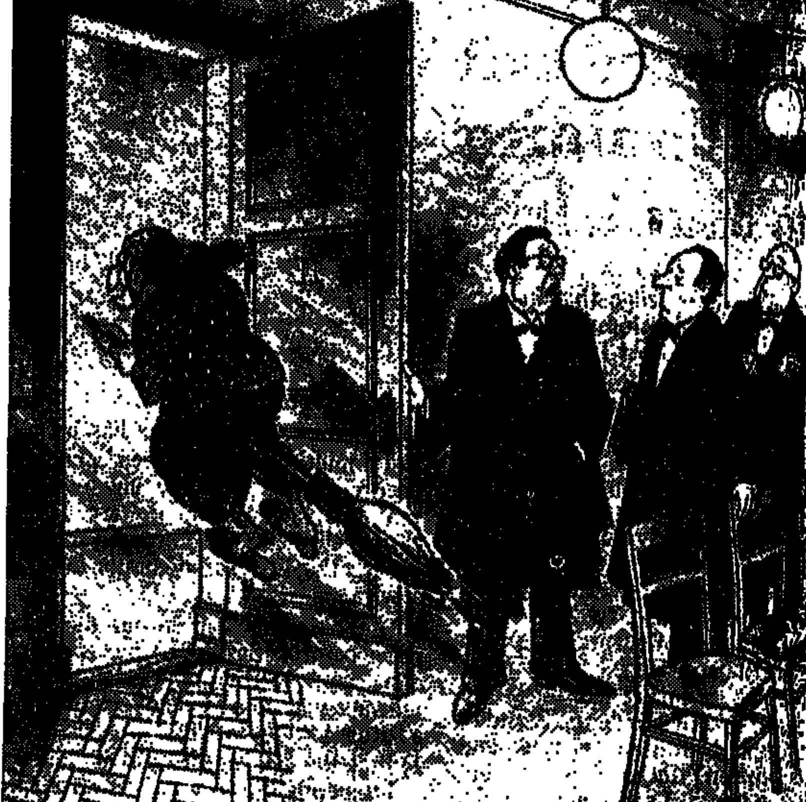
Needless to say the pillars of justice in Traunstein emphasised that they were not qualified to explain the spook.

For this reason they could not bear out the theory advanced by Dr Hans Bender of the Freiburg Department of Parapsychology that this was the first scientifically backed case of psychokinetics, the unexplained movement of objects though no physical cause.

Nor did the court rule on whether trainee lawyer Annemarie Schaberl, as mooted, acted as a medium. It simply decreed that Neumann's statements were untenable.

Since these statements were detrimental to the career of lawyer Sigmund Adam the petition for compensation, Adam versus Zsolnay-Voralg continues to be heard.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 10 April 1970)



Gentleman, do you believe that this woman's evidence was of any value?

(Cartoon: Hanno)

Child prodigy

Erhard Eppler, Minister of Economic Cooperation revels in extracting more or less expert comments on art from people who visit him in his office.

He likes to ask for opinions about the painter of a water colour he hangs portraying a red cloudy sky, yellow and brown tree trunks...

So far it has been judged to be from Macke's early period or Van Gogh's period.

Such assessments are of great amusement to Minister Eppler and he can be certain that art expert visitors will be astounded when he explains: "The picture was painted by my 11-year-old daughter."

(Handelsblatt, 20 April)

Mini warfare

Karin Bittermann, hostess at the "Zum Güterbahnhof" inn in Bayreuth has placed an advertisement saying: "Don't be like a weeping willow! Do you want your legs to look crooked in midi and maxi dresses?"

On the door of the inn by the goods station she has hung a sign: "maxiskirts unwanted here!" Added to this 27 year-old Karin has started a club designed to fight for the miniskirt.

The club's slogan which is "Why should we be dictated to by the fashion designers?" attracts mainly *men*.

So far the eldest member of the new club is aged 83.

(DIE WELT, 18 April 1970)

Bavaria's successful school for butlers attracts the servants of the elite



Trying to find a butler, butler-chauffeur or butler-chauffeur-cook is like trying to find a needle in a haystack. Having found one if he brings with him a wife it is all the better. She can work as a lady's maid, cook and domestic help. The total cost of the man is between 900 and 1,300 Marks per month, the overall cost between 2,000 and 2,500 Marks. With a wife included the net cost is at least, 1,300, the total cost more than 2,500 Marks.

Despite these high costs there are many people who would employ such home helps on the spot. And despite the high rate of earnings, including a complete wardrobe often from the top tailors, there is a lack of new recruits into domestic service.

One person who bewails this fact is Anna Keidel, the 75-year-old head of a servants training scheme in Bavaria. This, the only training centre for domestics in the Federal Republic, is celebrating its 70th anniversary this month. It has trained about 3,000 butlers who have worked in several countries.

The most recent demands for a servant have come from the Federal Republic ambassador in Paris, Baron von Braun, our embassy in Ottawa and the British embassy in Bonn.

The list of clients at Anna Keidel's school is umpressive. With names such as Hohenzollern, Wittelsbach, Fugger, the princely family of Thurn und Taxis, Liechtenstein, Metternich, Fürstenberg and Öttingen, the school's clients-list dazzles.

After a long list of blue-blooded princes, dukes, counts and other members of the nobility, there follows the monied aristocracy; von Bohlen und Halbach, von Siemens, von Thyssen, Flick, Grundig, Horten, Mannesmann and Schickedanz. In addition there are Willy Daume of the Olympic organising committee, Gunther Sachs, Finck the banker and publishers, property owners and surgeons.

The would-be servants of the future who knock at Anna Keidel's door are often sent by their masters or by brothers, sisters and friends in service. Their ages range from 18 to 52.

The two-week course teaches them to address people in the third person, clean shoes and windows, polish floors, clean carpets, polish silver, pack cases, press trousers, lay table, serve meals and announce guests, in that order of importance.

Anna Keidel said: "A good servant is not recognised by his livery but by the way he inconspicuously serves his masters and guests."

This is the basis of her training scheme. What is required is the will to serve, good testimonials, strength of character, tact and skill at knocking at doors. This should be done according to Anna Keidel "lightly yet perceptibly with the index finger."

Among the virtues of a good servant an erect posture is still important. But many of the old requirements such as the ability to prepare a hunting breakfast and saddle a horse have died out.

The founder of the original valet training school in 1900 was Therese Robl, the wife of a manufacturer, who matched her husband in business enterprise. Her star pupil was named Johannes Keidel.

(DIE WELT, 11 April 1970)

SPORT

Olympics site begins to take shape

BUT FATHER TIMOFEY'S TWO CHURCHES STILL STAND

Oberwiesenfeld, Munich, is changing day by day. Twelve hundred labourers work tirelessly on what is the largest building site in the country.

Now, with roughly two and a half years to go before the Olympics, the shape of things to come is clear. The Marathon gate of the stadium is ready. So are the press gangway round the site and the Olympic underground railway station.

A small, unimpressive shed stands in the desert of sludge and stone. "Why, I wonder?" mutters the visitor as the guide supplied by the Olympic construction corporation makes a beeline for it.

The guide knows from experience that the surprising discrepancy between appearances and reality will do its trick. The hut door opens to reveal a stairway leading down into another world.

Neon lighting fills a hallway with geometric reliefs in concrete on the walls and leading to two platforms and four tracks. 868 days before the Olympics a train could arrive at any moment, so it would seem.

The underground station, then, no longer gives cause for concern. On other sections of the site the unexpected length and severity of the past winter have hindered progress. Even in temperatures around freezing point work has carried on regardless.

But snow covered material, storms shredded tarpaulins, the cold prevented certain work from being carried out. The backlog is not yet worrying, the press officer of the Olympic construction corporation claims, but shift and weekend work is now necessary.

In the stadium, the heart of the site, the backlog has already been made good. An unending stream of construction vehicles dumps material. The eastern terraces are only ten feet short of their final height.

The western terraces, which are not being built merely by piling up material, have now reached the fourth storey and inside work is in full progress. The Marathon gate and the press gangway round the field are complete.

It is already clear that the Olympic stadium will look like many another of its kind, yet it has an intimate atmosphere that is unusual for a stadium accommodating 80,000 people.

This is due to the more circular than oval shape in comparison with other stadiums. As far as the stadium's ordinariness in other respects is concerned this will be more than outweighed by the canopy that will cover the main Olympic buildings, a marquee-like structure that is already famous as a scale model.

It is no longer a matter of whether or not it can be built. Specialists in various fields are now having their say. Aviarists, fire protection experts, bacteriologists, glass specialists and others are filling countless sheets of paper with their expert opinions in order to take into account every need and consequence of this unique project.

Erection of the roughly one million square feet of marquee is scheduled to start on 1 July, the day after the topping-out ceremony for the stadium. Underneath, where now construction chaos reigns supreme work will come to a standstill because the field will have been seeded.

In order to allow the grass to grow as nature and the groundsmen require it a monster crane had to be built. The crane has to be able to move in sixty-ton loads from outside at a height of 328 feet.

The field will be of grass. Voices have already been raised that Munich is by-passing progress in not resorting to synthetic tracks, but synthetics have yet to reach a stage at which all sports associations are prepared to accept them.

And the organisers can wait no longer, since a natural grass field takes two years to reach Olympic standards.

The indoor swimming-pool and sports arena, both within the marquee area, will also be completed this summer. A forest of fifteen cranes towers over the sites, which are next door to each other and to the Olympic stadium.

Two of the five pools are ready, surrounded by more than thirty graduated scaffolds. Work on the steps of the terraces has already begun.

To the north of these major arenas, separated from the marquee area by a section of the second ring-road around the centre of the city that is scheduled for completion in 1971, is the central university athletics complex with seventy pitches and eight buildings.

The course building and the indoor athletics hall with its concertina roof (which during the Games will house the equipment of seventy TV and 120 radio stations from all over the world) are under construction.

Both buildings look lost in the wilderness as yet. Some distance away from them crane jibs crowd the horizon again. On the periphery of the Olympic site the Olympic village is under construction.

From this vantage point the observer realises what a stroke of luck the site is. What other city has a site of this size and convenience a mere two and a half miles as the crow flies from the centre of town? More than a square mile of unbuilt or easily cleared ground with two magnificent centres of gravity, a mountain of rubble and a television tower.

Oberwiesenfeld is large enough to house not merely a number of Olympic buildings but an entire Olympic complex. At a few points the final appearance of the site is already clear. Bulldozers are moving earth to form hills, embankments and roads. The whole is being clad in topsoil and trees planted.

Part of the 21.5-acre artificial Olympic lake has been dug. At a later stage the buildings topped by the marquee structure will also be embedded in hills.

The mountain of rubble is already in existence. South of it Father Timofey, the hermit, is still in residence. His worries are over. His two fragile little churches are in the way of part of the showjumping stadium but the showjumping facilities are being built around him. The people of Munich would brook no other solution.

Timofey's religious services are not called for, however. The Russian Othodox Church does not accord him recognition as a priest and he is not to be allowed to celebrate the Mass for visitors.

(DIE WELT, 14 April 1970)

100-Mark gold pieces to finance Olympics

The entire Olympic deficit of more than 800 million Marks could, according to general secretary Herbert Kunze of the organising committee, be financed by the issue of a 100-Mark piece in gold.

Each coin, Kunze reckons, could raise twenty Marks. If forty million were struck 800 million Marks could be raised and the Olympic Games would not cost the taxpayer a penny.

The Olympic 100-Mark piece ought, he feels, to be legal tender. It would not, of course, be much in evidence since the entire imprint can be expected to disappear into collections all over the world.

In order to be legal tender the 100-Mark piece would need to be legalised by an amendment to the Coinage Act.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 13 April 1970)

Olympics turf to be heated

Turf in the Olympics to be held in Munich in 1972 is to be heated. At approximately nine inches below the surface a network of pipes, thirteen miles in length, is to be laid to protect the turf from snow and frost.

Warm water will be pumped through this network to give protection against the elements. This heating system will melt snow and ice and give general protection.

In addition investigations are being made to see if it is worthwhile covering the turf as well.

For summer weather the Olympics planners have included a watering system to keep the turf in moist condition.

Artificial turf for the Olympics stadium has been ruled out.

(DIE WELT, 21 April 1970)

Almost half Olympics cost to be raised by public effort



At the opening of the Olympics 1972 exhibition Federal Interior Minister Genscher estimated the total cost of the 1972 Munich Olympics at 1,600 million marks.

The Minister expressed satisfaction that 751 million Marks of this total, or 47.5 per cent, are to be raised by special money-raising schemes such as the Olympic lottery, Olympic medals and the organising committee's takings.

Herr Genscher gave an assurance that the Federal government would seek Bundestag approval for an overall solution to the sharing of the remaining expenditure, 831 million Marks, among the Federal, state and municipal exchequers.

As negotiations now stand the Federal government will be footing between 400 and 450 million Marks of the bill plus a share of the cost of maintaining the new facilities.

Commenting on the problem of spending millions on an event lasting only sixteen days the Minister noted that the Olympics will be providing sport in this country with a number of large, useful and attractive sports facilities all of which will remain in use for decades.

Housing facilities and major roadworks considerably improving traffic conditions will be other by-products of the Olympics. Planners have limited themselves to what is absolutely necessary and have always borne in mind a subsequent use.

The Bonn exhibition, at which models of the Olympic facilities in Munich and Kiel are on show, was also attended by Willi Daume, president of the National Olympics Committee It is intended to show that Olympic planners are doing a grand job. Members of the Bundestag showed a lively interest.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 April 1970)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc. 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT $ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	Rl 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.65
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.60
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d